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THE TIMES MINDEN

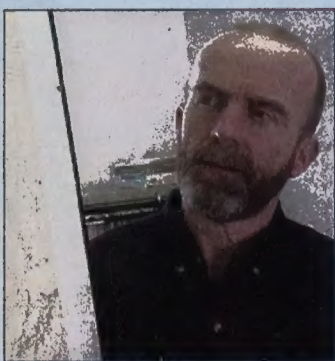
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MONDAY, JANUARY 21, 2002
No. 2036

This week



Planning for the future

Brendan Bérubé takes on the task of Minden Hills planner. See feature page 15.



Let's volley

Archie Stouffer Elementary School's senior boys volleyball team won the northern division tournament. See page 18

Notable quotes:

"From what I hear, there is always ice and winter eventually."

Dana Manning page 4

Commentary

Whether we like it or not, weather matters... page 8



Darren Lum/TIMES

A slow start to winter was good for the construction industry, allowing workers a longer season. Here, Kirk Smith installs a roof end on the old Minden Hospital which will become the new home of Peter Bennett's Minden Animal Clinic.

Peter Rigby let go as Chamber's manager

by MARTHA PERKINS
Special to The Times

The Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce has not renewed the contract of its general manager, Peter Rigby, effective immediately.

Rigby was told of the decision on Friday, which turned out to be his last day at the Chamber.

The contract between the Chamber and Rigby and Associates had expired.

Rigby had been hired in November of 1999 as Chamber manager, focusing on economic

see RIGBY page 2



Jerry Grozelle/TIMES

Winter warm up

A good bonfire is always a popular attraction on a January night in this part of the world. The one at the Fun Night sponsored by the Minden Kinsmen Club on January 12 proved that conclusively. The event drew an estimated 500 participants.

The weather game

Winter's slow arrival a boon to some, bust to others

by ALLISON TAYLOR
Times staff

It's a winter for the record books, that's for sure.

Instead of experiencing an influx of cold weather aficionados, increased seasonal sales for area businesses and cold weather to boot, all of course amassed together by earth-shattering levels of snow, the only thing that is starting to fracture is the money-making power of the county.

The last two months have brought conditions that many people in the Highlands will not want to engrave in their long-term memories.

While the conditions of late might start to turn things around for the county, the late start on the season has still negatively impacted the area.

Mild temperatures, excessive rainy conditions and low levels of snow accumulation so far this winter have started taking a toll on the weather-sensitive economy.

Devastating is a word used by the manager of Minden Live Bait and Tackle.

"We depend solely on ice," said Jack Saunders, "When there is no ice, people don't fish and we don't sell bait."

Not only are sales down from last year at this time for the

see IN THE GAME page 4

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Rigby thanked for laying foundations of economic development department

from page 1

development.

In a press release issued Friday afternoon, Scott de Savoye, chair of the personnel committee, said "Rigby and Associates was contracted during a very difficult time in the history of the Chamber. Having now laid an initial foundation, it is the desire of the board and the Chamber members we represent that a renewed focus be initiated in terms of exploring both economic development and tourism marketing opportunities..."

"The board and its members wish to thank Peter for his past efforts and certainly wish him continued success in his future endeavours."

The press release says "subsequent to a full review and analysis of the administra-

tive structure of the Chamber, it is anticipated that recruitment for a replacement will commence in the coming weeks."

Rigby worked out of an office in Minden's Heritage Plaza and was not directly involved in the operations of the tourist information office across the highway.

Board vice-president Jim Henwood will be responsible for the day-to-day Chamber operations in the absence of president Diana Ferguson, who is on vacation. He will not be working out of the Minden office but will be available for staff.

In the press release, Henwood says "I'm extremely confident that the existing Chamber employee group will ensure that members' interests remain our top priority and that the organization will be managed professionally."



Allison Taylor/TIMES

Oshawa snowmobiler dies after hitting tree

by MARTHA PERKINS
Special to The Times

A 23-year-old Oshawa man was killed in an accident at Haliburton Forest, becoming the Highlands' first snowmobiling fatality of the season.

Jason Scott Stefanek was riding with a friend on Kendra Lake in Haliburton Forest on Thursday afternoon.

Police say the two friends decided to leave the trail and cross the small lake, with Stefanek going first and the friend following about a minute later. Stefanek

had successfully crossed the lake and was heading up the shoreline embankment at a high rate of speed when he hit a tree. He was ejected from the snowmobile and hit a tree.

Although he had a helmet with him, he was not wearing it at the time. Police have a theory about why he was not wearing the helmet but still had a few more interviews to make before issuing a statement.

Stefanek's friend found him and drove his snowmobile to a cottage where he phoned Haliburton Forest's base camp.

Meet and greet

An informal social evening for business people, employees and residents took place at the Government Information Centre on Highway 35 January 16. Hosted by the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce, lots of fun and information was shared by all. GIC Client Service Representative Gayle Clements welcomes new chamber member Verne Brinsmead of Riveredge Leisure Products Inc., to the social. The GIC would like to remind residents of the access on public computers to all government Internet sites at their office. Anyone looking for a place to get a photo health card can stop by the GIC site on the first Thursday of every month.

Minden Hills starts new search for CAO

by JERRY GROZELLE
Times staff

The search for a new Chief Administrative Officer for Minden Hills continues.

Reeve Ross Rigney said negotiations with a prospective candidate broke off when an agreement to terms could not be reached. "We're starting from scratch again."

The municipality is advertising for the position again. Rigney said that because it has been several weeks since the position

was first advertised, council felt it would be advisable to re-advertise for the position. "There may very well be some who applied before reapply," he said.

Rigney said he is disappointed that an agreement with the prospective candidate with whom the municipality had been negotiating couldn't be reached, but he has already had a couple of new applications come in by e-mail.

The goal was to have a new CAO hired by the first of March and Rigney said he's sure that goal is still attainable.



AUDITION CALL

The Highlands Summer Festival
general auditions
for its 2002 Season on
Sunday, January 27 at 1:30 or 6:30 p.m.
and Monday, January 28 at 7:00 p.m.

We require 10 men and 14 women,
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Open auditions for any resident of Haliburton County

Information packages are available by e-mail or pick one up at the Clarica Insurance office in Haliburton or The Next Page Book Store in Minden.

For packages, information, and anyone interested in being a part of our production team, leave a message with the Festival box office, 705-457-9933. To receive an audition package by email contact: jack@kevker.com.



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BYE! BYE! CONSTRUCTION

Chicken? Egg?

It's all one scrambled mess for a proposed septage lagoon

by ALLISON TAYLOR
Times staff

It's the same old scenario and a long-time dilemma of trying to figure out if the chicken or the egg has the bragging right. This time the proposed septage lagoon at the Pine Springs Landfill site is caught right in the middle of the debate.

On property that is legally owned by Algonquin Highlands, the Pine Springs site is physically located in Hindon Township, part of Minden Hills territory.

Algonquin Highlands council has decided it would like to pursue the possibility of creating a septage lagoon somewhere on their 45 acres of property, but in order to do so they need to get an amendment to Minden Hills' Official Plan and a zoning by-law amendment as well.

In a letter read at the January 17 Algonquin Highlands council meeting, Minden Hills said it is prepared to consider the proposed septage lagoon subject to Algonquin Highlands meeting two requirements, the first one being a proposed site plan.

Minden Hills also asked for details of the proposed public/private relationship and several questions including: participating players in the venture, who will coordinate and be responsible for the development process, who will pay the costs of development, who the proposed facility is intended to serve and, who will own, manage and assume liability for the facility.

Minden Hills also wanted an environmental assessment to ascertain that "the subject site represents the best location for the facility." They also wanted to ensure the proposal wouldn't impact any private land.

These are questions that Algonquin Highlands will answer, they just don't have all the details available at their finger tips.

"We can't answer those questions right now," said Reeve Eleanor Harrison. "We can't make any of those decisions unless the amendments can be made."

"What came first the chicken or the egg?"

For example, Harrison said, Algonquin Highlands couldn't enter into an agreement with a private contractor "unless we can prove to them that the land is okay for a septage lagoon."

The municipality doesn't even yet know what the relationship would be, said Clerk-Administrator Gerald Bain.

Not only can the council not name the partners in the project (they don't have any yet) but they don't even know which parcel of the land would best suit the lagoon.

In other words, Algonquin Highlands cannot answer the questions put forward by Minden Hills, and since it can't, the necessary amendments will not likely proceed.

Councillor Jim Hicks said the first step should be to clarify with Minden Hills to find out if they will consider the amendments to the official plan and the by-law without the specific information they requested.

In the meantime, Algonquin Highlands will start looking for a consultant.

"This council wants to be sure this area would accommodate a septage lagoon," Bain said.



Martha Perkins/TIMES

Garnering support

On Tuesday night, Minden's Ross Warburton went to Lindsay to ask PC leadership candidate Ernie Eves a few questions. Warburton says Haliburton County Veterinary Services, an association with about 100 owners of large animals, is in jeopardy. He wanted to know whether Eves as premier would do anything to address the issue. Listening in on the conversation was MPP Chris Hodgson, host of the reception for Eves at the Admiral Inn. Hodgson said it was Eves who saved the program the last time there were problems. Local members of the Progressive Conservative riding association have until February 23 to get their memberships up to date to entitle them to vote in the March 23 leadership race. It is hoped there will be a polling station in Haliburton County, as well as one in Lindsay.

As insurance costs skyrocket, Algonquin Highlands gets a good deal

by ALLISON TAYLOR
Times staff

The insurance Gods must have been watching over Algonquin Highlands this year.

While most municipalities in the Haliburton Highlands faced upwards of a 50 per cent hike for municipal insurance premiums in 2002, Algonquin Highlands was laughing all the way to the bank.

At the meeting on January 17, council retained an agreement with Jardine/OME for 2002 with a measly premium increase of 15 per cent. That is a 35 per cent saving from what several of the other municipalities had to fork out this year for insurance increases, in a post-September 11 hike on insurance across the country.

"Fifteen per cent is a really low percentage considering

what the market is doing out there," said Clerk-Administrator Gerald Bain. "The average increase in the province has been 50 per cent for standard insurance and 35 per cent increase for reciprocal insurance coverage."

With better coverage in 2002, Algonquin Highlands will pay \$46,228.46 (including PST) for insurance, up \$6,050.38 from the 2001 total of \$40,178.08.

"How did we luck out with only a 15 per cent increase?" asked councillor Jim Hicks. "Take it and run," was his advice.

The council discussed the possibility of taking the insurance to tender, but Bain said that certain municipalities that decided to tender for insurance coverage experienced a higher cost than originally quoted for renewal coverage.

"I don't think it's worth going to tender," said Reeve Eleanor Harrison.

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In the game of weather dominos, one move can change the whole economy

from page 1

tackle company also in part because construction along the Highway 35 corridor took its toll, the bait is also starting to perish after spending too much time lingering in the tanks.

"Winter is always a little tough," he said, "but we are really suffering."

From fish bait to open waters, the weather is just like a game of dominoes. If just one piece is out of place, the entire contingent will unravel. If mother nature stays out of whack for too long, the dominoes will continue to capitulate.

For example, Saunders can't sell his bait because ice fishing hasn't broken ice — there isn't any ice to break.

Open lakes mean open trails and the sum of all the parts of the equation is that tourists who so revel in winter recreation and cold-weather pass-times won't frequent the area.

"We've started to have cancellations," said Mark Coles, owner of Ogoogo Resorts on Highway 35. So far, Coles has seen six customers back out on reservations at his resort because of weather conditions.

"Snow will help," he said.

The snow over the past couple of days will help, but there needs to be more of it.

While customers are still enjoying weekend getaways at Ogoogo, business will

pick up for Coles once the weather starts to unfold, he said.

Up the road a few kilometres, Kinsman's Cottages is in the same boat — literally. They can almost set sail right from their resort, which is not something the ice fishers want to hear.

"We want to get the huts out as soon as possible," said Dana Manning, co-owner of Kinsman's Cottages.

Last year Manning witnessed fish wiggling on the rods of fishermen on Jan. 4. This year, things are several weeks behind schedule and are considerably delayed but both owners agree it's too early to hit the panic button.

Three nights in a row of cold temperatures will make both Coles and Manning two happy fish. The frozen north has (crossing their fingers) happened in time for their busy season which starts in February.

The key to the cold weather is consistency.

Snowmobilers have already lost nearly four weeks of action on the trails, being left out in the cold with the fish, so to speak.

"My brand new sleds have zero kilometres on them," said Brenda Newell, co-owner of Kushog Lake Marina. "I'm even starting to answer the phone, Kushog

see SNOWMOBILERS page 5



Darren Lum/TIMES

Tony Prentice, a contracted plow driver with the Ministry of Transportation, washes the wheels and the undercarriage of his truck — warm weather and a lack of snow provided the time. A week later, however, the weather picture changed dramatically.

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Corporation of the Township of Algonquin Highlands PUBLIC NOTICE

Applicant: CULBERT / SMART

Lot 1, Concession 4 and 5, Geographic Township of Stanhope

Take Notice that the Council of the Municipal Corporation of the Township of Algonquin Highlands proposes to enact a By-Law to stop-up, close and convey to the abutting property owner(s) those parts of the original allowance for road between Concession 4 and 5 Lot 1, Township of Stanhope described as follows:

FIRSTLY:

All and Singular those certain parcels or tracts of land and premises situate, lying and being in the Geographic Township of Stanhope in the County of Haliburton and being composed of parts of the original allowance for road between Concession 4 and 5 Lot 1 being more particularly described as Parts 1,2,5,6 and 9 on a Plan deposited in the Registry Office for the Registry Division of Haliburton County as Plan 19R-7212;

SECONDLY:

All and Singular those certain parcels or tracts of land and premises situate, lying and being in the Geographic Township of Stanhope in the County of Haliburton and being composed of parts of the original allowance for road between Concession 4 and 5 Lot 1 being more particularly described as Parts 3,4,7 and 8 on a Plan deposited in the Registry Office for the Registry Division of Haliburton County as Plan 19R-7212.

The proposed By-Law will come before the said Council for consideration at its regular meeting at the Algonquin Highlands Municipal Office, North Shore Road, on the 7th day of February 2002 at the hour of 11:00 p.m., and at that time, the Council will hear in person or by his/her counsel, solicitor or agent any person who claims that his land will be prejudicially affected and who applies to be heard.

Dated: December 18, 2001

Gerald C. Bain, C.A.O.

Township of Algonquin Highlands, RR #2, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0

PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE #2 HIGHWAY 35

from Haliburton County Road 121 (North Junction)
northerly to Highway 118

and

Highway 118

from the Village of Haliburton westerly 3.0 km

The Ministry of Transportation (MTO) has retained the services of D.M. Wills Associates to complete the Detail Design for improvement to Highways 35 and 118, as shown on the map below (G.W.P. 357-97-00). A Transportation Environmental Study Report (TESR) will be prepared and filed for public review at the completion of this Study.

The second Public Information centre (PIC) will be held:

Monday, January 28, 2002

4:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Minden Community Centre, Minden

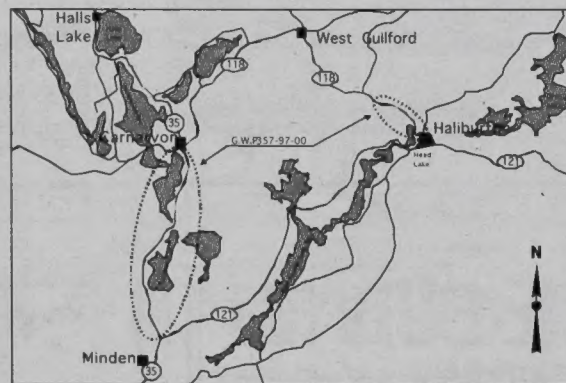
and

Tuesday, January 29, 2002

4:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Pleasant View Library

575 Van Horne Avenue, Toronto



PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

Highway 35

Rehabilitation of Mountain Lake Bridge
Shoulder Widening
Drainage Improvements
Frost Heave Repairs
Rock Cut Widening
Construction of a Truck Inspection Layby
Paving

Highway 118

Drainage Improvements
Rock Cut Widening
Paving

If you require additional information please contact either:

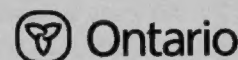
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Snowmobilers, ice fishermen and skiers like the weather cold; contractors and people paying their heating bills like it warm

from page 4
weather service."

Both Brenda and her husband Bruce haven't let their snowmobiles free on the snow yet this year, but this week's weather brought new hope.

Hope is what keeps Paul Prentice looking out his window every morning.

While he has had a couple of "passable" rides on his snowmobile this season, the unsafe lake travel means that most trails remain closed, he said.

Machine repair and rentals are frozen even though the conditions are not.

"Snow is money from heaven when it comes," Prentice said.

Take for example how the county was inundated with snow last year. These high levels of falling white stuff rejuvenated snowmobile sales this fall. Both Prentice's company, Prentice Power Sports Ltd., and even Haliburton Outdoor Equipment Ltd., nearly sold out of Ski-Doo's.

There is no place to ride them though.

The answering machine message for the Haliburton County Snowmobile Association states clearly that "lakes are not safe to ride."

In fact the only trail open for snowmobilers to negotiate is the abandoned rail corridor from Haliburton south to Kinmount, the same trail that enabled last weekend's Sled Dog Races to proceed, despite the melting conditions.

There might be a few more trails open after the snow, but Treasurer of the Haliburton County Snowmobile Association Mike Burke says, "As much as it looks great, it's just not enough snow right now."

Burke estimates around 31 days of delayed snowmobiling action so far this winter.

Normally the trails would be undergoing grooming right about now, but the base isn't entirely frozen yet, Burke says. "It's just not safe yet."

Cross country skiers have had a little better luck.

"In a nutshell, the season started later but we are mainly operating as we should be at this time of year," said president of

the Haliburton Highlands Cross Country Ski Club, Blake Paton.

Nordic fanatics lost about three weeks on the season, but conditions are getting better, Paton said.

"It could be better," he says, but Paton himself has been out on his skis nearly every day last week.

Paton hopes winter is here to stay and the conditions continue to improve.

"By definition, skiing is an exercise in optimism," he said with a laugh.

As Nordic skiers begin to pick up speed on the trails, downhill skiers have been flying past them since December 22.

"Modern technology is great," said Sir Sam's spokes-man Bob Bishop, who is a proponent of man-made snow.

While hydro costs will be up because of all the energy required to make the white stuff, the down-hillers really only lost one week on the slopes.

"It will snow, the lakes will freeze over and everyone will have fun, eventually," Bishop said.

Even if winter has to be created, it will happen.

The domino affect has hit the construction workers a little differently. They have been having a little more fun these past two months.

In fact, construction is one area in the county that has been reaping the rewards of mild temperatures.

Not only have contractors been able to work longer into the season, but they have also had a chance to get a start on projects they initially scheduled for next spring.

In December, Ray Johnston Construction was able to install septic tanks, a project normally ceasing in November.

"The ground wasn't frozen so we kept working until it did," said Office Manager Debbie Johnston.

With an extra month of business, the

company's longer season has had a positive affect from a business perspective.

"From a construction point of view the weather is favourable," said Cleve Roberts, operations manager at Emmerson Lumber. "The guys have never really slowed down."

With easier access to job sites, the construction season has been extended for nearly one and a half months, Roberts said.

In December they were still pouring concrete.

However, as Roberts points out, most people "are in the Highlands to ski, not to build a

deck in the middle of winter." The extra business they are getting now might also start to deteriorate in the spring.

Despite the extra business, Johnston is more concerned about the rest of the community.

"Flowers have only been out a few times," she said. "We need the snow."

Similar tales of joy were reverberating from Ronald Sisson Builder, Highlands Plumbing and the Home Hardware

Building Centre in Minden.

The slow-down may not have hit the construction industry yet, but everyone is aware of the "catch 22," said Sue Hewson, owner of Highlands Plumbing.

"Sure the building industry is still running, but the lack of snow affects the tourists, which in turn will affect us somewhere down the line," she said.

Part-owner of Carnarvon Building Supplies, Rick Bailey says mother nature needs to be consistent.

"Overall if we have the seasons when we are supposed to then it would be better for the overall economy," Bailey said.

Bailey is cognizant of the fact that while business for his construction company might be slightly up since December, it is at the price of another person's business suffering.

"We all depend on one another up here and a short term gain does not necessarily mean that we will be up in the long run," Bailey said. "One business's good fortune is another business's bad fortune."

Just as Bishop said in ski country, over at Kinsman's Cottages, Manning is certain of one thing. "From what I hear," she says, "there is always ice and winter eventually. Let's just keep crossing our fingers."

*"Snow is money
from heaven when it
comes."*

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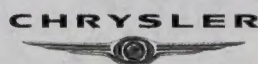
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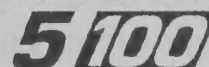
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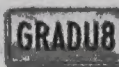
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The street with a big past

Trent University student André L'Italien explores the history of Minden's Main Street

by ALLISON TAYLOR
Times staff

André L'Italien has his work cut out for him.

The Trent University student is attempting to unearth the secrets, stories and the history of the businesses along Main Street in Minden from the bridge to the Rockcliffe Hotel.

But it's not just a matter of interviewing a few store owners here and there. This project is a little more involved.

L'Italien plans to look a little further into the past and catalogue the businesses and the owners who have operated along the core of the town from 1850 to 1900.

"Minden has a big interest in heritage," L'Italien said. "People are finding meaning and importance from going back to their roots."

The seeds have already been sewn, but they have yet to be dug up. In fact, there is a lot of significance in that 50-year period, and the Trent University geography and Canadian studies major is starting with a lengthy review of literature.

"I'm collecting as much record information from as many sources as possible," such as books, account information and details from the registry office.

The project was commissioned by the County Town Museum; the U-Links office is helping with the project as part of its arrangement with Trent University.

The museum is trying to get more accurate information of the street for its summer walking tours.

"People really like to know that kind of history," said Carol Miles from the muse-

um. "It helps when you can throw in small pieces of information like names and dates."

While the project is part of L'Italien's bio-regionalism course at Trent, he specifically chose this project because it blended all of his main interests including history, geography and photography.

Once all the data is compiled and organized he hopes to have a good overview of the businesses and individuals who were operating them along Main Street during that time period, the next stage will start. By creating maps, and organizing photos from that time, L'Italien hopes to not only have a written project but also a complete visual overview of those five decades of business life on Bobcaygeon Road.

L'Italien will select specific points in time to illustrate the changes. The photos have been a little hard to get his hands on. "They have been turning up, but I can use some more," he said. "It's a little tricky finding photos from the 1900s."

He is also looking for copies of old newspapers, but for the most part, information-gathering has not been a major issue. "There is a little bit more than what I expected," he said, referring to the books that have been written on the Haliburton

County.

L'Italien has been to the national archives in Ottawa, he has spent several hours the library at his own university and he is starting to get down to business at the registry office in Minden. He said some of his professors have been providing bibliographies to help him get started.

He also plans on talking to some of the older residents who might have ties to that time, or even interview other historians who have researched the area.

The challenge to find the information makes the project more interesting, he said. "There is no single source, you have to piece it together from clues and tidbits of information."

This is also the first time anyone has taken on a project like this in Minden.

"It's a little intimidating," he said. "I'm taking little steps and not getting too concerned about the overall project just yet."

While one step at a time provides the eager student with a nice gradual momentum he needs to complete his ambitious task, there are a few glitches that L'Italien will have to deal with.

For example, there have been three major fires on Main street and two of those happened between 1850 and 1900. One of the fires apparently destroyed

one complete side of the street.

The data missing or destroyed in those fires will likely leave gaps in his information, he said.

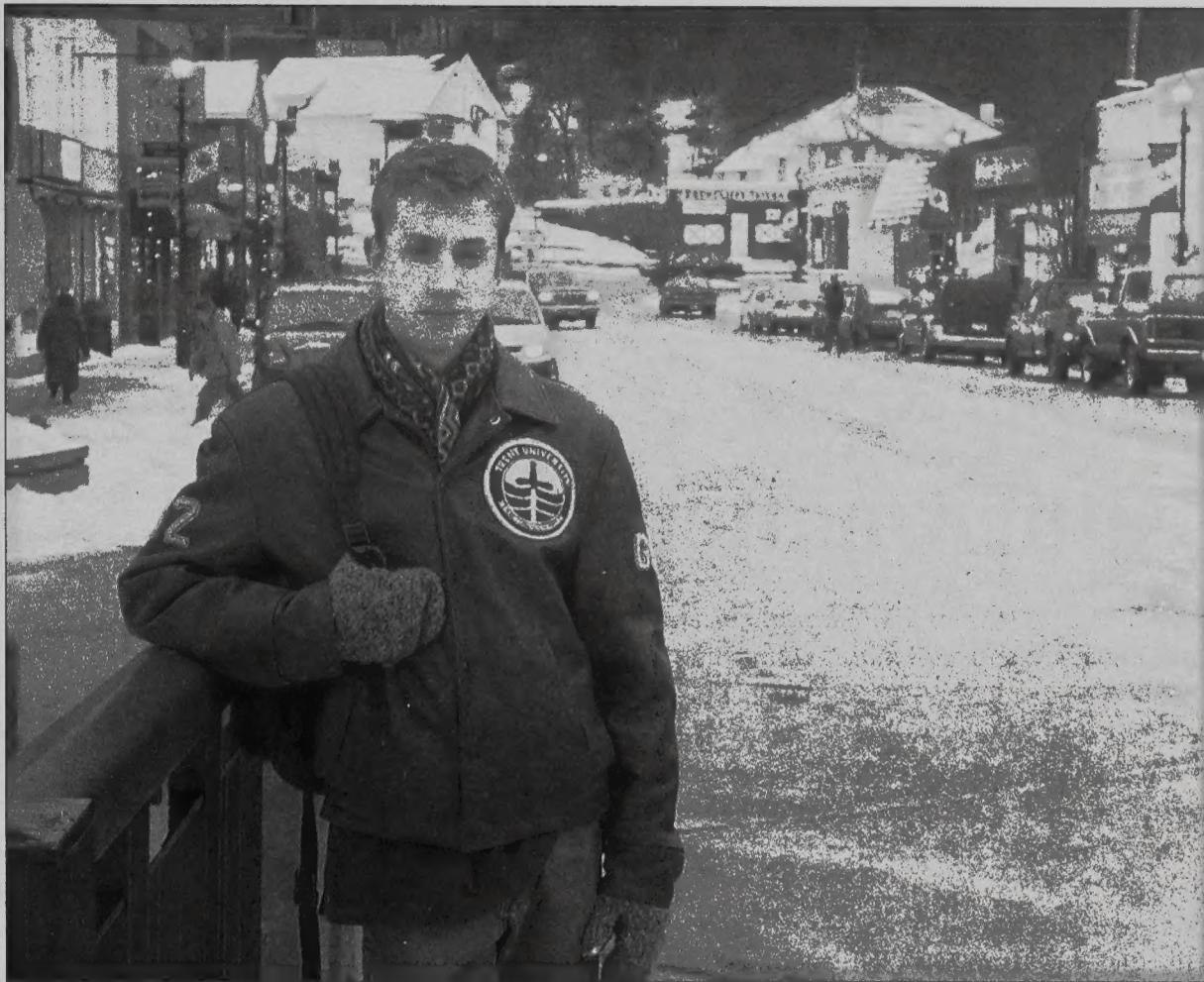
In places where data is missing, L'Italien said he will use his best judgement and speculate if he has to.

L'Italien said the project will easily take more than 80 hours. He is also balancing a full course load at school and living in Peterborough. He does travel to Minden when he has to, but said most of the information he can take home with him.

The U-Links office has been arranging his transportation from Peterborough because he doesn't have access to a car. U-Links will also organize overnight accommodations. Miles has also been a big help, L'Italien said.

His research project is due in early April and he will provide a copy of his work to the museum at that time. He will also present his findings to the Minden Business Association.

Anyone with records, photos or any other information from that time period is asked to call Carol Miles at the County Town Museum, 286-3154.



André L'Italien knows what Minden's Main Street looks like today; he'd like the community's help to come up with photos or records that paint a picture of how it looked in the past.

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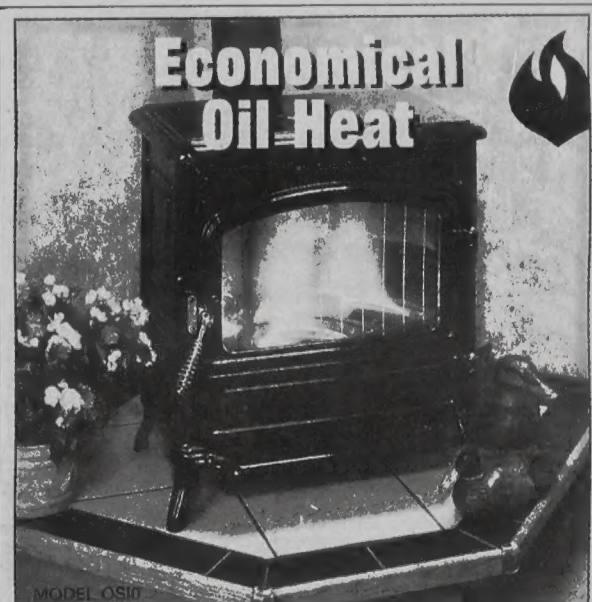
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MARTHA PERKINS
MANAGING EDITOR

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

Weather matters

Often talked about, sometimes unpredictable, occasionally devastating and always uncontrollable... sound like someone you know? It could be, but in this case the subject is the weather.

Many of us in Haliburton County would be happy if the temperature stayed mild and snow and ice were occasional inconveniences tossed in to make us appreciate the good weather... kind of like a trip to the city once in a while to reaffirm our appreciation for the lifestyle we enjoy here in the Highlands.

Like it or not, this part of the country needs real winters for the economy to thrive. Extended periods of brisk, several-degrees-below-freezing temperatures, with a foot or more of snow on the ground is the ideal situation for prosperity.

It must be cold enough, early enough to make ice safe enough for anglers to enjoy the opening of the ice fishing season on January 1 and there must be enough snow to keep the snowmobilers and cross-country skiers out and enjoying their chosen sports, preferably by mid-December.

While a few businesses, especially the construction trades, may enjoy some benefit when the winter weather is slow setting in, the majority of this county's businesses suffer when the weather is unseasonably mild. Snowmobiling and ice fishing are two winter activities that generate revenue for a variety of businesses. There are many others.

It is unfortunate that the Minden Sled Dog Derby is no longer a winter fixture. The influx of competitors and spectators to Minden for three or four days provided a welcome boost to the economy of the immediate area. It is good to see that Haliburton has organized a sled dog derby which, in its first year, has been a success.

Winterfest in Minden is another activity which, in its absence, will be felt by the business community. Anything that brings people into the community will generate income for some businesses and much of the money earned by one enterprise will be spent at other businesses in the community.

The slow onset of winter this year has delayed the opening weekend of the Minden Ice Races by a week. Originally scheduled to get started this past weekend — January 19 and 20 — the mild temperatures made it impossible to have the track prepared in time for the racing to begin as planned.

The Ice Races have a valuable economic impact on the Minden area for much of the winter. The event brings 150 to 200 people or more into Minden each weekend for a month and a half, when the weather co-operates and the races get the green flag. The vast majority of the racers and their families and friends who attend the events are from outside the area. Many of them spend weekends at local resorts and motels; they buy meals in local restaurants; they shop in local stores; and in general, put a lot of money into the economy of the area.

The Ice Races are a prime example of a revenue-generating activity that is dependent on "seasonal" weather conditions.

Businesses are tuned to the seasons and those which are able to adapt to the seasonal climate changes are the ones that will continue to thrive.

jg



IMAGES OF THE HIGHLANDS

St. Paul's Anglican Church, Minden

by DARREN LUM/TIMES

IN PERSPECTIVE

Len Pizzezy

A chance for change

The announcement was succinct and carefully worded. The board of the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce would not be renewing its contract with manager Peter Rigby, and will begin the search for a new manager in the next few weeks. Meanwhile, the board's press release said, the existing Chamber staff will continue to serve the needs of members.

Change is nothing new to the Chamber. For more than 20 years the organization has faced turmoil, soul-searching, controversy and politics, both internally and in its relationship with the business community whose interests it attempts to serve. It has struggled with an ongoing identity crisis that no change of manager, board or staff has ever completely resolved.

Ironically, that confusion mirrors the business community of the Highlands, which is physically fragmented among many small and geographically disparate communities and philosophically undecided about whether tourism and cottaging should take precedence over other forms of economic development which may compromise what remains of the beauty, tranquility and relative emptiness of the Highlands.

At its inception about three decades ago,

the organization that became the Chamber was a tourism marketing agency. Its purpose was to promote the Highlands as a tourism destination. The biggest supporters and first beneficiaries were local lodges. In time, the focus broadened to include other area businesses, which after all, would benefit from an expansion of tourism and its offshoot, cottage development.

Although few would argue with the importance of tourism marketing, the Chamber's focus has spawned tensions and resentments that kept it from gaining the full backing of the broader business community. Many business owners with the wisdom to recognize that tourism is the economy's lifeblood have paid Chamber membership fees with less than keen enthusiasm. Rightly or wrongly, businesses without direct involvement in tourism have felt unrecognized and unappreciated by a tourism-focused Chamber.

For its part, the volunteer board of the Chamber has also struggled over the years to create an organization that could market the Highlands as a tourism destination while at the same time serve the needs of the broader business community.

Board members have made significant
see CHAMBER page 9

CONTACT THE TIMES

PHONE: 286-1288

FAX: 286-4768

EMAIL: editor@mindentimes.on.ca

MAIL: Box 97 Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0

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IN OTHER WORDS

Columnists and Letters to the Editor

Catching criminals by the numbers

Just when I thought I'd heard everything, consultants in London, England presented the city with a crime-fighting equation. The "Resource Allocation Formula" is designed to determine where bobbies are needed in that great old city. And it's being taken seriously too. Even now, the local constabulary is using it to tackle the city's high crime rate.

Now don't get me wrong, I'm all for progress, but I have a hard time buying into this one. I mean, imagine a standoff between a cornered criminal and our police if this whole math thing took root.

"Freeze!" Yells the constable, as he readjusts his pocket protector and draws the latest crime-fighting weapon from his utility belt.

"Why should I copper?" Answers the criminal defiantly.

"Don't make me use this," says, our cop as he waves the latest bit of technological wizardry.

"You think that scientific calculator scares me," sneers our criminal.

"Okay, you asked for it! Two trains are being robbed ten miles apart, one is head-

ing east at 40 miles an hour and the other west at 25 miles an hour. At what point will the two gangs of train robbers meet their getaway cars? Well, what's it going to be punk?"

Minutes later, the criminal emerges; one hand holding his overstressed brain and the other a pencil and crumpled paper. "I give up copper! You win! No more math questions!"

This new style of criminology might change the whole format of reality-based television shows like "Cops" too. No longer would the patrolman ask the drunk driver to walk the straight line or touch his nose. Instead, he'd give him a simple long division quiz - so much for entertainment value. It'd merely become a grittier, adult version of Sesame Street.

It might work - but somehow I don't think it would be that easy. After all, how do you deal with the wise guys running

the numbers rackets? What then, Hooked on Phonics?

Of course, it doesn't help that the Resource Allocation Formula is out there for the entire crime world to see. Sure, even cold-blooded mobsters will be shaking in their boots the first time they see $NDb - (60\% \times Nc/Nt + 40\% \times Dc/Dt) \times 17,585$. Who wouldn't?

But it won't last long. Some evil criminal genius will figure out that if they invert $NDb - (60\% \times Nc/Nt + 40\% \times Dc/Dt) \times 17,585$ and multiply it by the square root of Pi they'll put one over on the cops

and consultants. Of course, that'd only apply to bank robberies. Counterfeiting would require a different set of variables, possibly even the judicious use of quantum physics.

But wait! What about a simpler formula? Something like: criminal act = real jail time. Why not make prisoners do

hard math time? Math class always seemed like punishment enough for me and I've no doubt that this might be a truly effective deterrent. Take school kids over to the institutions and show them the horrors of prison life with a "Scared Straight A's" program.

In any case, when criminals have paid and amortized their debt to society they'll emerge from the big house with newfound math and suppressed anti-social tendencies. Then, they might be able to land a job where these skills would be appreciated and put to good use - in Revenue Canada.

So perhaps we've finally found a good use for math.

Let's face it, crime is an age-old problem and everyone could use help. Recently, in Toronto, Mayor Mel Lastman said he wasn't even aware that Hell's Angels were involved in organized crime, which is like saying that you didn't know that Microsoft dabbled in computer technology.

Maybe his city should acquire that formula first, because no matter how you figure it, that story just doesn't add up.



BEYOND 35

Steve Galea

Three caws for Sammy, an uncommon crow

This is a message for Johnny Stutt. I don't know where he is or even if he still is, but if you happen to run into him, please let him know that I still remember what he did to Sammy. Truth is, I haven't laid eyes on Johnny Stutt for close to half a century, back when we were both apple-cheeked, tow-headed grade schoolers walking back and forth to Humber Heights Public School. Johnny and I both lived on Braecrest Avenue. Sammy? He lived at my place and I could almost always count on Sammy to be waiting at the corner of my driveway to caw me a 'welcome home' at the end of the school day.

My dad had erected a signpost at the end of the driveway with our name and street number on it. Sammy liked to perch right on the top of the post, about 10 feet off the ground.

Which isn't so weird when you consider Sammy was a member of the Corvus Corvidae family - which is to say, a common crow.

Well...not that common. No crows are.

The term 'birdbrain' does not apply to these rascally critters. Biologists have verified that crows can count accurately up to four and that they have a 'language' of at least 24 different calls. Those calls include specific caw sequences that translate as "come here", "come back", "feeding time", "man with a gun", and "let's get ready to rumble!"

What's more, crows mate for life and dote almost neurotically on their offspring, which often hang around the nest for as long as five years, helping to raise and look after subsequent broods. Sammy didn't have those early life options. He was found at the bottom of an sugar maple, alone, wet and hungry with no adults in sight. The kids who found him sold him to my Dad who brought him home in a cardboard box. Sammy soon proved to be an uncommon common crow. He learned to speak a few words and, if you whistled for him, to come swooping in like a Harrier jet, land-

ing on your shoulder with a delicacy that seemed at odds with his bulk. He also learned to retrieve nickels and dimes thrown in the long grass - and to exchange them for a piece of fruit. He must have imprinted strongly with his

two-legged flightless adopters because he grew to love people. Loved to watch them; loved to try and bum

treats off them. People didn't always return the friendship. Generally speaking, mankind seems to have an uneasy, mistrustful attitude towards the birds, and it shows in the language we use to describe them. Correct name for a group of crows? A 'murder'. Name for a crow fledgling? A 'simp'. If Sammy was aware that he was not universally adored by humans, he never let on. He continued to 'people watch' at every opportunity. He was sitting atop his post watching the kids come home from school one day when Johnny Stutt came by, and, for reasons unknown, chucked a rock at Sammy. It hit him

square in the chest. Sammy felt to the ground, thrashed himself upright and flew wobbly off. We never saw him again.

Anyone who's lost a pet knows what a void they leave when they go. It was even worse with Sammy. There's something about being the only kid on the block (in the city, maybe), to have a personal friend who will sit on your shoulder, ride on your bike, go indoors and romp on the furniture, go outdoors and perform impromptu solo air shows over your head - there's something about that, — once gone — is irreplaceable.

I don't suppose I still carry a grudge for Johnny Stutt. Lord knows I made my share of stupid and cruel mistakes when I was a kid - still do, unfortunately. But there are those occasions when you wish you could rewind the Master Videotape of Life and edit out the rough spots.

Suppose I'd talked Johnny Stutt into playing catch that afternoon? Suppose I'd come home early and taken Sammy into the house, or off in the fields?

ARTHUR BLACK

Columnist

Chamber has a chance to seek a broader base of support

from page 8

progress in recent years toward building an organization that can look beyond its immediate administrative and financial concerns and take a longer term view of its role and challenges.

Convincing Haliburton County Council to become a major financial supporter of the Chamber was a huge step in the organization's development. It no longer has to struggle with inadequate budgets and the threat of insolvency. It has the backing of council to pursue economic development, a responsibility that was once part of county council's mandate. If the

Chamber can be effective in this role, it will ensure ongoing support from local politicians.

The circumstances that led up to the Chamber's decision not to renew its contract with Peter Rigby can never be the subject of public debate. The board has a mandate to act in the best interests of members, and clearly it believes it has done so, notwithstanding any internal debate that may have occurred, or may still linger in the aftermath of Friday's press release.

As it begins its search for a new man-

ager, the board has an opportunity to seek greater support from its broad membership base. One way it can do so by giving member relations a higher priority. The

new manager should be given the tools and the responsibility to forge links with Chamber members outside the immediate tourism industry. A phone call once a year or an occasional office visit would go a long way toward connecting Chamber management with people in the front lines of the local economy.

As a volunteer-led organization with a

broad, complex and challenging agenda, the Chamber will never be able to keep every local business person happy. It isn't perfect, but nothing is. It must put most of its energy into tourism marketing, because that is the underpinning of the local economy. At the same time an effective Chamber must show an interest in and an understanding of, the challenges faced by other local businesses. In recruiting a new manager, the board has a new chance to create a Chamber that can help move the local economy forward. In tackling that task, they deserve the business community's support

IN PERSPECTIVE

Len Pizzey



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At Friday's Co-op Job Fair at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School, Jodie Snow showed pictures of her placement at CHACE Place to fellow students Jaime Bilodeau and Kim Whetstone. The weeks she spent at CHACE convinced Jodie that she'd like to always work with children and she hopes to take early childhood education at college in the fall. Several students had booths about their co-op experiences throughout the county. Employers also benefit from the young people's enthusiasm and willingness to learn. If you would like your business to be involved in the practical work experience program, please call Wanda Mole at 457-2950.

martha pekris/TIMES



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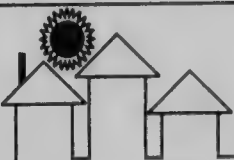
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Algonquin Highlands agrees to landfill company's request for a raise

by ALLISON TAYLOR
Times staff

The company that runs Algonquin Highlands' landfill sites is seeking an "adjustment" of 35 cents to its current hourly bill rate of \$11.79.

Securitas Canada Ltd asked for the increase in an effort to offset its "annual increases to government fringe benefits, annual wages and union benefits," wrote James J. Evans, client service

manager of Securitas Canada in a letter to Algonquin Highlands.

That means the attendant services will get an increase of 2.96 per cent in 2002, said Administrator-Clerk, Gerald Bain.

For all five landfill sites in Algonquin Highlands, for a total of 6,064 hours, the total increase will be \$2,122 to \$73, 614 in 2002. Last year the township paid \$71,492.

Bain checked the next lowest

tender for service in 2001, which was \$74,283. "With the present increase the 2002 contract with Securitas is still \$669 lower than the second lowest tender last year," he said.

"I don't think it behooves us to tender every year," said Reeve Eleanor Harrison. "The office has not had a great deal of complaints from this company."

Harrison said the consistency from Securitas was important to the municipality and she recom-

mended council accept the pay increase.

Deputy-Reeve Don Shortreed wanted to be sure the attendants, at their new rate, followed their job descriptions. Council asked the Public Works Superintendent to devise a complete list of their responsibilities, to make sure the attendants are fulfilling all their requirements.

The motion to accept the increase was passed at the January 17 council meeting.

Will that be a light shade of green with your garbage?

by ALLISON TAYLOR
Times staff

They won't be yellow and they won't be blue. The new 2002 landfill cards for Algonquin Highlands will in fact be green.

Since the cards were yellow last year, council wanted to shake things up a little bit and change the colour on everyone. Maybe it was to establish a variety when people are making that trek to the landfill, or maybe the new colour swatch had a little to do with a new start for the new municipality.

They might be the same colour as the as the Dysart landfill cards, but that doesn't necessarily mean Algonquin Highlands isn't innovative.

"We can just have a different shade," Councillor Jim Hicks said.

The next big question for the colour-sensitive council members was what shade of green the cards should be?

What a dilemma this creates, there are far too many option to choose from.

Anyway, residents in Algonquin Highlands should be prepared for a new landfill card to be issued this year. The card will have a combination of attributes from the old Stanhope and Sherborne cards of 2001.

While the hours won't be listed on the back, there will be a reminder to recycle, thanks to the dedication of Deputy-Reeve Don Shortreed.

"People should be reminded to recycle," he said.

However, the new cards will not be laminated.

"It's too expensive for us to do it," said Reeve Eleanor Harrison. The municipality will issue more than 12,000 cards this year.

"People can come in to get it laminated for a price," said Councillor Kerry Lock.

So, after some deliberation, the final colour determination was forest green, thanks to a recommendation by Councillor Tom Gardner.

"Forest green it is," said Harrison with a chuckle.

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Algonquin Highlands briefs

Municipal service fees might increase

by ALLISON TAYLOR
Times staff

The following is a brief synopsis of items discussed at the January 17 meeting of Algonquin Highlands council.

A proposed by-law is in the works to increase fees for municipal services, but residents won't have to put their hands too far into their pockets.

Increases will be minimal.

After checking with what other municipalities in the county charge for things such as planning reports, compliance letters and tax certificates, By-law officer James Moore proposed new prices to council for similar services offered in Algonquin Highlands' neck of the woods.

For example, compliance letters will increase to \$50, up from \$35. Installation of new wood/gas burning stoves/fireplaces will increase to \$100 from \$50 and building permits will increase five cents to 30 cents per square foot.

Last year, there were 320 compliance letters issued in the township, Moore said.

An amendment to the official plan will run about \$750, based on what other municipalities are charging. Zoning amendments will remain at \$750 and the two combined will run \$1,000, an increase of \$200.

"This is basically because of our planners and what they charge," Moore said. "Their fees are quite high."

The proposed by-law will come before council in February.

Guaranteed 'good' minnows

The minnows will really be moving at the Dorset Snowball Winter Carnival this year if Deputy-Reeve Don Shortreed has anything to do with it.

"Whoever supplies the minnows has to keep them outside so they're not so shocked they stop moving," Shortreed said in reference to the minnow

races, which are usually hosted by the council members at the annual event.

Last year the minnows were apparently kept inside and once they were put into the somewhat chilled water in the tank they froze and refused to do their job and race.

They just stared, said Shortreed, imitating the face of a stunned minnow.

The council was nearly on the floor laughing.

"Maybe we should make Don in charge of the minnows," Councillor Kerry Lock suggested. "He can give them lessons."

Shortreed agreed to the challenge and promised the minnows he supplies will "move this year. Just remind me I'm in charge of them."

Money to borrow

In case of emergency, council has the right to borrow up to \$700,000 from the CIBC.

"It is traditional to put a by-law in place to authorize the borrowing of money in case of emergency," said Administrator-Clerk Gerald Bain.

At the meeting, council passed a 2002 borrowing by-law giving the municipality a right to borrow 70 per cent of the revenue for any given year.

In 2001, council could have borrowed a maximum of the same amount, but it never had to exercise that option, Bain said.

Harrison reminded the councillors that Bain told her the cash flow is pretty good right now, and it is unlikely the money will be required.

There goes the barn

The tender to purchase, dismantle and remove the decrepit barn adjacent to the Maple Lake landfill site is a done deal.

Council advertised the tender late last year after receiving a letter from Keith Harrison, who advised council of its deteriorating conditions. At the time, he offered to take it down for free.

Harrison, who had been looking after the property, had the only tender for the job and offered \$100 to buy the barn.

Council members joked that the advertising for the tender cost more than the offer itself.

Reeve Eleanor Harrison did not take part in the voting process, declaring a conflict of interest since she is related to Keith Harrison.

Dorset School

To lease or not to lease?

The former Dorset School is owned by the Trillium Lakelands District School Board, which agreed to lease the property to Algonquin Highlands for \$2 a year for two years.

Although council has no immediate plans on how the property could be used, it doesn't want to lose the opportunity to lease it. It also doesn't want to have to pay the costs of maintaining an empty building. Councillors suggested leasing the property to a third party or individual in the interim.

The school board does not like the plan, Bain said.

Concerned mainly with the idea of having to cater to the needs of a third party at the end of the two-year lease, the board wanted assurance the property would be vacant at the end of that time period.

So, Bain sought legal advice and found a way the third party could be asked to vacate the property three months before the lease expired, in order to fulfill the school board's guarantee.

"Hopefully this will satisfy them," Bain said.

Bain also said the board was likely concerned the township would be making money on something it leases for only \$2 a year.

After the discussion, Shortreed wanted to know if the property was worth the time and money.

"Well maybe we need a little more time to consider," Bain said. "We do need to cover our costs though."

The property is in good shape, says Bain. "It looked clean and was covered with hardwood floors. It's a nice little dwelling."

It was decided that Shortreed would survey the interior, including the basement to ensure it is up to snuff.

Harrison said it was a good idea to keep the property option open for a later decision.

"I don't wish for us to let it sit for another two years," she said.

The saga continues as council awaits the school board's decision.

Dorset centre goes acoustic

If the acoustics aren't right, they can be fixed.

The Dorset recreation centre got a special delivery last week of 40, 4x8 panels.

"They're heavy. They're funny looking things," Lock said.

The panels were purchased to control the sound levels in the centre. Council is currently on the prowl for someone to install them.

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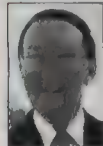
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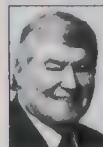
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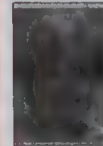
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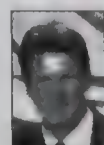
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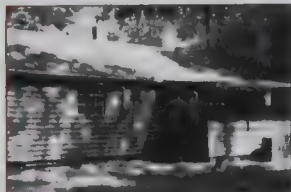
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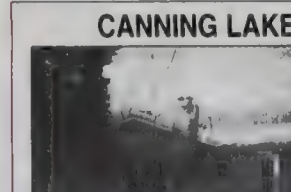
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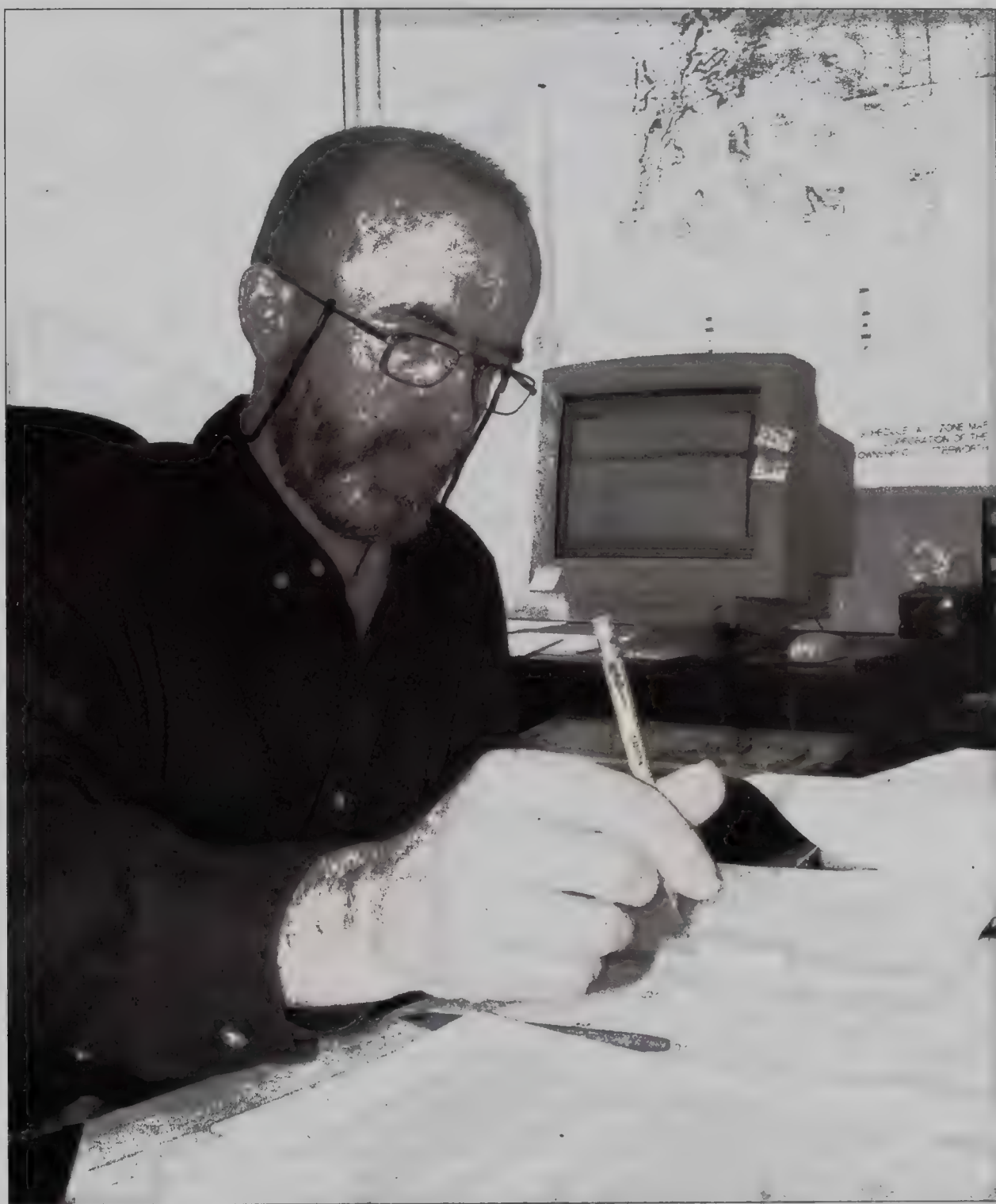
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Daren Lum/TIMES

Brendan Bérubé has a plan!

It turns out the new planning administrator in Minden Hills has a few ideas up his sleeve. Editor Jerry Grozelle sat down with Brendan Bérubé last week to get a sense of where the township is heading and what the plan is.

The new planning administrator for Minden Hills brings a variety of experience with him to the job.

Brendan Bérubé accepted the responsibilities as the local planner in mid-November. His background includes seven years as a lands technician with the Ministry of Natural Resources in Minden, two and a half years in the building trades and six years as a teacher. He also operates an alternative energy business, installing solar energy systems. He said the small business will take a back seat to his new career with the municipality.

Bérubé has roots in Haliburton County dating back to the 1970s as a cottager. He and wife Joanne decided to make Minden home in 1981. Joanne's family has cottaged on Gull Lake since 1945 and she grew up in this area. The Bérubés have three daughters. Danielle is in her third year of university; Margaret is in her last year at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School and Kathryn is in Grade 9 at HHSS.

During his tenure with the MNR, Bérubé's job as "lands technician" involved doing the basic duties of a planner. They included reviewing and analyzing proposals submitted by other ministries, municipalities and individuals to

make sure they were in compliance with MNR regulations.

"I would give them a means of dealing with it, or if the proposal was unacceptable, I would recommend the proposal not be approved," he said.

As planning administrator for Minden Hills, his duties are similar to those from his tenure with the MNR, with a different perspective. "There are a great number of similarities. We look for input from the public and other agencies," Bérubé said. "Municipalities are the lead agencies for most planning issues. We look at issues in terms of sound planning principles and practices."

The planner's job is to analyze proposals and decide if they are acceptable or whether they need to be redesigned or the property needs to be rezoned to fit within specific guidelines.

Bérubé said one of the goals of the planning department is to make sure changes in land use are compatible with adjoining land uses. "That is the underlying principle," he said. "That doesn't mean we won't get complaints....alternative perspectives, they're called."

The recent amalgamation of three municipalities into one is posing some challenges for the planning department. "Last year was the first year for the amalgamated

Nestled among endless maps, documents and files, the work for Planning Administrator Brendan Bérubé never stops.

municipality and, of course, we have quite a disparity in planning documents from one former township to the next. We have an official plan for Anson, Hindon and Minden, which is about 10 years old. We have a new official plan for Lutterworth and none for Snowdon. We're just getting prepared now to undertake a review and an update.

He said that since the Lutterworth official plan is new and state of the art, it will probably be used as the basis on which to formulate an official plan which will encompass the three former municipalities which now form Minden Hills.

There aren't vast differences between the three former municipalities in terms of planning issues. "Of course, Minden has its business park, its highway commercial and the village aspect and they would all be special policies. But, by and large, the land use issues are very similar, so, using Lutterworth and Anson, Hindon and Minden as a basis, one umbrella document will be drafted, bringing Snowdon into the fold."

Bérubé said the process of developing an official plan for the new municipality is important. "An official plan is your future vision, looking at a 15- or 20-year window and you establish goals and objectives for the path that you want future development and the future of the municipality to follow. So, it's important that the whole municipality is headed in the same direction at the same time."

Bérubé pointed out that zoning by-laws are the tools by which the official plan's goals are implemented. He said they set out the specific uses that are allowed and where they're allowed and zones every individual property owner's holdings in a specific zone category. "It lets you know what's permitted because you always strive for compatibility," he said. "You will find that there will be some non-conforming uses when you update a by-law for an area this size, but, of course, you don't have to stop that use or change the building or structure." He added that the property would be grandfathered as a legal non-conforming use.

"The immediate impact of a consolidated by-law wouldn't be that great," Bérubé said.

He noted that there is a considerable disparity between by-laws of the former three municipalities. He said one area of particular interest is that of setbacks from water bodies.

"A very keen interest for most property owners on a lake, is how far back new development will have to be set back from the high water mark." He noted that the Anson, Hindon and Minden by-law from 1986 requires a 100-foot setback, while in Snowdon, it is about 40 feet and in Lutterworth it is 66 feet. "In the waterfront category, typically, that's the range," he said. "In a comprehensive update, we would probably try to strike a balance. We would look at what other adjoining municipalities are doing and find some middle ground. That's just one specific example."

Bérubé noted that there are some cases where the disparities affect neighbouring properties, let's say those on the bay of a lake where the property owners on one side of the bay are regulated by more restrictive than those on the other side. "There are some inequities," he said.

Minimum lot sizes and frontage requirements are also issues that will have to be dealt with when by-laws are

see TAKING page 16

Planner looks at the big picture

from page 15

streamlined and a comprehensive official plan is drafted.

The process of drafting the Lutterworth official plan began in 1996; the plan was adopted by the former Lutterworth council in November of 2000 and was passed by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing in mid-December 2001. The process spanned more than five years. But since an official plan for Minden Hills will incorporate much of the content from the Lutterworth and Anson, Hindon and Minden plans, he is optimistic that the process of preparing and adopting a plan for the new municipality will be much shorter.

"Because we have a new and vibrant official plan document for Lutterworth, we should use that as a springboard for the update," he said. "Hopefully, we should see a significantly shorter time line this time around."

The new planning administrator pointed out that work can be done on the comprehensive zoning by-law while the official plan is in development and the municipality would be in a good position to implement the comprehensive zoning by-law soon after the official plan has received final approval.

With regard to a "clean and clear" or property standards by-law, a draft of which was defeated late last year on a split vote at a Minden Hills council meeting, Bérubé said it is his understanding that the province is considering

Darren Lum/TIMES



Brendan Bérubé looks at the present planning documents that will be changing because of the recent amalgamation. The by-law planning documents are also undergoing changes.

making such a by-law something that municipalities are required to address in future municipal documents. "You may find that within a two to five year horizon, any new documents have to have a property standards by-law provision," he said. "I think that's the way the province is heading."

"That's one of those issues that's very important, but very contentious."

In spite of the challenges that lie ahead for the Minden Hills Planning Department, Bérubé said he is enjoying his new position. "I'm liking it a lot," he said. "I think I'm going to like it even more when we get caught up."

Bérubé said he is getting used to the members of council, who "have been wonderful to work with so far. They have been very co-operative and supportive. They realize the pressure I've been under to get the planning department up and running."

When Bérubé was hired as planning administrator, a planning assistant, Deanna Houghton, was hired at the same time. She comes with an extensive background from a legal office, which, Bérubé said, fits well in the planning department.

He said that even with two people working, it has been a struggle to catch up with the work load. "We've reviewed and rewritten all our procedures, streamlined everything and added some steps to make our job easier," he said. "It's good for public information purposes too, because when somebody comes in, we have a detailed procedure we can give to them. It keeps us organized, but it also lets them know what to expect in terms of expected time lines and procedures for such things as shoreline allowance closures."

One part of the new job that Bérubé says he particularly enjoys is the interaction with people and helping them whenever he can. "Probably more than anything, I enjoy speaking with people and meeting with people... land owners, ratepayers, the public... answering their questions and helping them out; making Minden Hills a good place to live and a good place to want to do business."

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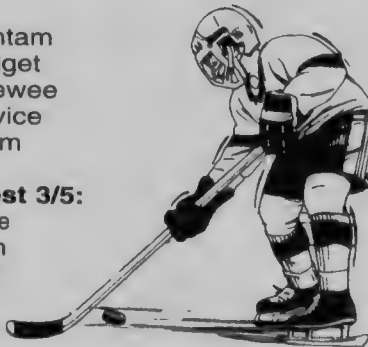
Home Playoff Game Schedule

Game 1:			
Jan. 22nd	7:00	Haliburton	Atom
Jan. 22nd	8:30	Haliburton	Bantam
Jan. 24th	7:30	Haliburton	Midget
Jan. 25th	8:30	Minden	Peewee
Jan. 26th	4:00	Minden	Novice

Game 3			
Jan. 29th	8:30	Minden	Bantam
Jan. 29th	9:30	Haliburton	Midget
Jan. 31st	7:30	Haliburton	Peewee
Feb. 2nd	5:00	Haliburton	Novice
Feb. 3rd	1:30	Haliburton	Atom

Game 5 if necessary - all series are best 3/5:

Feb. 3rd	4:30	Haliburton	Peewee
Feb. 5th	8:30	Haliburton	Bantam
Feb. 7th	7:30	Minden	Midget
Feb. 7th	6:00	Minden	Atom
Feb. 9th	5:00	Haliburton	Novice



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Lake Kashagawigamog residents demand answers from Dysart council after sewage spill

by CATHY OLLIFFE
Special to The Times

The Township of Minden Hills should have been notified by the Township of Dysart et al when 68,000 litres of raw sewage spilled into Lake Kashagawigamog by a malfunctioning sewer line pumping station, according to Peter Oyler.

Oyler, a Minden Hills councillor, was representing the Lake Kashagawigamog Organization (LKO) when he appeared at a Jan. 14 Dysart council meeting to talk about the Dec. 17 sewage spill. The LKO president was joined by 22 other people concerned about the spill and the way information about the incident filtered down to them.

In a prepared speech Oyler said, "A spill of this nature and magnitude affects or has the potential of affecting everyone on the lake chain and residents of Minden Hills and further south. Not today, not tomorrow perhaps, but eventually some effects of this spill - however minute - will work their way downstream and adversely affect water conditions in Canning Lake, the Drag River and points south."

To Dysart reeve Murray Fearrey he said, "There are those who would say that a spill of an estimated 68,000 litres of raw sewage into a lake the size of Lake Kashagawigamog is infinitesimal relative to the total volume of the water in Lake Kashagawigamog and the 'flushing of the lake and the time of year in which the spill occurred will assist in remedying the situation.'"

Fearrey was quick to put the same ques-

tion back to Oyler regarding the Nov. 28 incident on Moore Lake when an oil truck operator pumped oil into a household tank that was already full. The overflow spilled into the basement and escaped through a drain in the floor of a building and an unknown quantity made it to Moore Lake. It could be another couple of weeks before the clean-up is complete.

"As a representative of an adjoining municipality, I'd be interested to know what your protocol is regarding spills," Fearrey asked.

"We haven't had a sewage spill in 15 years," Oyler replied.

"But you had an oil spill on Moore Lake," Fearrey countered. "I'm interested in how you handled that. That would be really helpful ... you didn't notify people downstream, did you? Or make any extensive press releases?"

Oyler said his municipality followed protocol in that matter and Fearrey said, "The same protocol as we have."

"That problem is ongoing and will still be ongoing," Oyler added. "Any spill regardless of type, is a tragedy."

"And it is," Fearrey agreed.

The confrontation between the two men continued when Fearrey announced Oyler had called Dysart clerk-administrator Tammy McKelvey at home to let her know he'd be part of a delegation that day. Until Jan. 1, McKelvey was the CAO at Minden Hills. "Don't call the clerk at home," Fearrey said, "she works for Dysart now."

Oyler said McKelvey is a hard-working person and he often called her at home about municipal matters.

"Maybe that's why she works here now - she doesn't want to be treated like that,"

Fearrey said.

McKelvey blushed slightly and kept her head down during the conversation but didn't say anything.

The point of the delegation wasn't verbal wrestling between the two politicians, it was more for the people who live on or near Lake Kashagawigamog who are concerned about the sewage spill which happened after a sewer line's pumping station on Kashaga Drive malfunctioned and its alarm failed to go off. Because the problem happened at night, nobody noticed it until after it had pumped for 12 hours. Normally, when the pump fails an alarm notifies American Water Services Canada (formerly known as Azurix - it's the company that looks after Dysart's sewers) but the alarm malfunctioned too. When a neighbour noticed the spill at 8 a.m. Dec. 17, the company was notified as was the Ministry of the Environment (MOE) and other pertinent health agencies. The Haliburton Kawartha Pine Ridge District Health Unit issued a boil water advisory which was lifted a few days later.

Before people in the audience had a chance to speak, Fearrey explained how seriously Dysart is taking the spill and what it is doing to prevent such an occurrence from ever happening again.

"I'll tell you how seriously we're taking it. The [sewage treatment] plant operator slept at the plant all night," Fearrey said. "We followed the protocol and if there

needs to be adjustments to that we're willing to talk about it," he added. "Raw sewage has been going into Lake Kashagawigamog for some time and the sewage

treatment plant was put in to correct that, not to enhance it ... if there's some constructive things to do, let's hear them."

Only two members of the crowd, local resident Trevor Babbs and Oyler, sat at the delegation table to formally address council but other members of the audience did ask questions at the end of the session. First up was Babbs who wanted to know exactly what happened to cause the problem and had some pointed technical questions about what he described as the township's "so-called state-of-the-art" sewage system. To answer some of those technical questions, Fearrey read a letter from the MOE and said copies of it would be made available to him or anybody who wanted it.

Babbs suggested the township invest in a data recovery system and that the public be advised of all meetings where the situation would be discussed. "You're talking about water quality," he said. "I'm not swimming in that lake for two years."

Fearrey replied, "I think you should be careful with what you're saying here." He explained that, before the sewage treatment plant was built, many public institutions including schools, the hospital and some of the resorts were responsible for allowing septic waste into the lake. "We've seriously tried to correct that," the reeve said. "This is terrible what happened but it wasn't as terrible as what was going into the water before."

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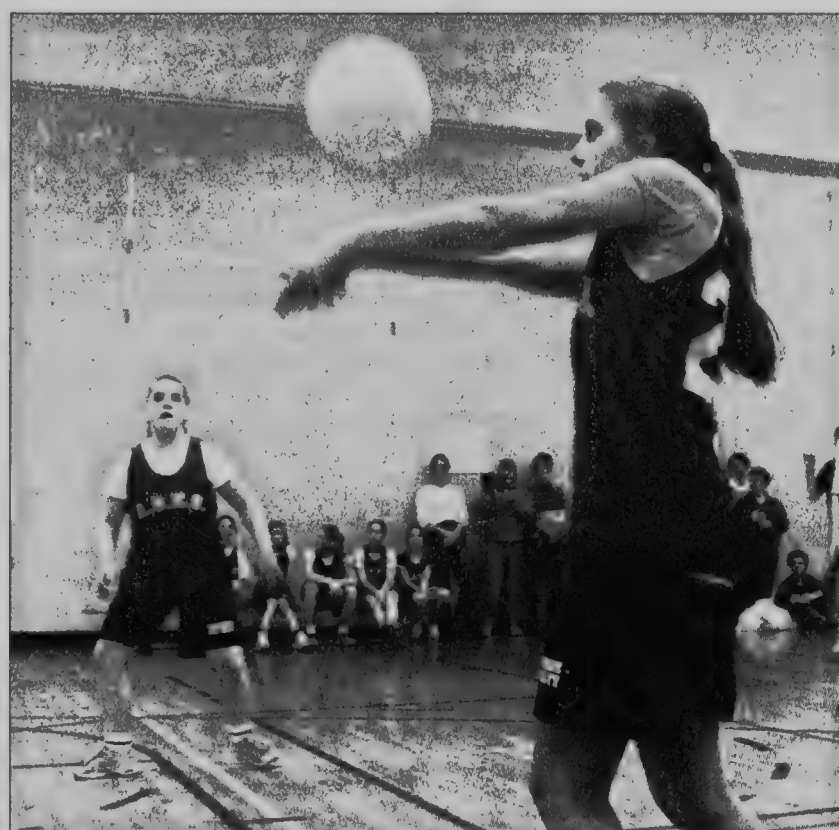
Jerry Grozelle/TIMES

ASES Senior Boys win Northern Division Volleyball Championship

The Archie Stouffer Elementary School Senior boys volleyball team emerged as champions of the Northern Division of the Trillium Lakelands District Volleyball League at a tournament in Minden last week. The ASES team, along with the Bobcaygeon team, which finished in second place in the four-team division, will advance to the next round, which will be played at Dr. George Hall Public School in Little Britain.

The ASES boys defeated Langton Public School of Fenelon Falls 25-22; Bobcaygeon Public School 25-18; and J.D. Hodgson Elementary School 25-23 to clinch the division championship.

ASES coach Dan LaPierre said he was very pleased with the way his team played. "They played smart, disciplined volleyball," he said.



Darren Lum/TIMES

The ASES Senior Boys were champions of the tournament held in Minden last week. Travis Walker is seen above in a game against Langton Public School of Fenelon Falls. At right, the ASES Senior girls volleyball team lost to the JDHES Jaguars in the first match of the tournament. Things didn't fare much better in the remaining games except for a near victory against the tournament champion Langton squad from Fenelon Falls. ASES finished fourth in the tournament.

Highland Storm Little NHL mid-season report

by **WADE MACINNES**
Special to The Times

Thirty-six games into the 72 game schedule, the Little NHL, 83 players strong, is flying high. The parents and other fans have been witness to 321 goals scored, tons of break-aways, three ties, a lot of really close games, a few blowouts and three shutouts.

Amazingly, in 1,296 minutes of hockey played there hasn't been a single penalty called, which is proof of great sportsmanship!

Leading the junior division (ages three to six) is the very strong Avalanche team, with 16 points, from eight wins, one loss, no ties and an awesome team plus/minus of plus 61.

The Blues are in second spot with nine points, from four wins, four losses and 1 tie.

The Sharks are nipping at the Blues' heels in third place, with eight points from four wins, five losses and no ties.

In the fourth, and final, spot are the Red Wings, who are in the rebuilding stages with a roster laden with rookies. They have three points from one win, seven losses and one tie.

Senior division

Topping the charts in the senior division (ages 7-11) are the Sabres with 15 points from seven wins, one loss and one tie.

The Flyers (the Broad Street Bullies) are in second place with 11 points from five wins, three losses and one tie.

Those loveable Leafs hold down third place with seven points from three wins, five losses and one tie.

The Bruins are in fourth place with three points from one win, seven losses and one tie.

Newly acquired Bruins' coach Steve Ferracuti said, "Mike Keenan left this team in a mess!" Ferracuti vowed to get the Bean-Towners back on track by playoff time.

Blockbuster trades

As suspected, there was a flurry of blockbuster trades before the mid-season deadline as GMs and reps hashed out deals.

In the junior trades, the Avalanche sent power forwards Spencer Hicks and Matt Kim to the Red Wings for faceoff

"The Avs also sent tough guy Matt Besner to the Sharks for the hot young rookie Angus Olliffe and an undisclosed amount of Pokemon cards."

specialist Quinn McLaughlin and the speedy rookie Connor Gadoway. The Avs also sent tough guy Matt Besner to the Sharks for the hot young rookie Angus Olliffe and an undisclosed amount of Pokemon cards.

In the Senior trades, the Sabres sent sniper John Henry Peterson to the Bruins for the grinding winger Graham Hamilton and future considerations.

The Bruins were sad to learn that Rookie winger Dalton Burke held a press conference to announce his retirement due to recurring back problems. So, the Bruins called up Nicky Hunter from their farm affiliate "Providence" to get some experience playing with the big team.

All the coaches and GM's are looking forward to the second half with great anticipation.

Here are your Molson Cup Three Star selections for the first half of the season.

Three Star selections

From the Avalanche, Tanner and Curtis Ballantyne or Wayne and Wayne Junior plus solid blue-liner Jake Sisson.

From the Sharks, Tanner Hamilton, Nicky Hunter and Riley Tait.

From the Red Wings, Jordan Howe, Ben Hicks and Chris Hall get the honours.

And from the Blues, Donovan MacInnes, Ty Barry and Mike Nelson top the list.

Representing the Sabres were Daniel Goodwin, Jonathan Salvatori and Dalton Morrison.

From the Flyers, Heather Mulholland, Craig Cooper and Marc Dobie.

The Leafs stars were Mitch Hicks, Jesse Hamilton and Andrew Murray.

And from the Bruins, Brandon Nimigon, Tim Thurley and Curtis Hutchings round up the three star selections.

The success this new local hockey league is enjoying is due, in part, to the many parents and volunteers from both Minden and Haliburton who donate their time for these young hockey players. We thank them very much! Also we would like to thank the businesses who donated money towards our new jerseys and they are Glen Sharpley Sports, J. Howe Builders, Trillium Sheet Metal, Haliburton Family Medical Center, Roberts-Austin Fuels, McKeck's Place, The Thread Mill and County Sign and Display.

Everyone in the Haliburton and Minden Communities is urged to come out and enjoy lots of fun hockey action every Saturday from 10 am until 2 p.m. at either the Dysart Community Center or the Sinc Nesbitt Memorial Arena. There is no gate fee and the kids love to play in front of large crowds. Check the local papers for location or phone Wade MacInnes at 457-2359.



Darren Lum/TIMES

Hawk forward Martin Gage slams on the breaks to give the Wildcats defender the slip during action in Haliburton last Wednesday. The Hawks got off to a good start, enjoying a brief 3-0 lead early in the game, but the Wildcats clawed their way to a 74-37 victory over the Hawks.

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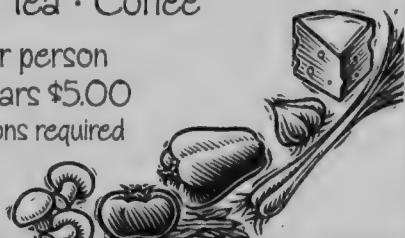
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High school sports notes

Junior Girls undefeated until final, place second in Volleyball

The HHSS Junior Girls Red Hawks volleyball team was undefeated going into the finals of the Kawartha Qualifier tournament in Haliburton last week. The Red Hawks downed St. Mary's 25-22 and 25-23; Norwood 25-23 and 25-20; Campbellford 25-21 and 25-16; and St. Thomas 25-10 and 25-22 before tangling with the LCVI Spartans of Lindsay in the tournament final. The Red Hawks bowed to the Spartans by scores of 25-12 and 25-19 to finish in second place.

Debbie Ray and Kristen Stackhouse were named outstanding players for the Red Hawks.

The Red Hawks will play in a Kawartha Championship pre-qualifying tournament in Fenelon Falls on February 6.

Hockey team wins against Wildcats

The Red Hawks hockey team doubled the I.E. Weldon Wildcats 6-3 at the Dysart Community Centre last Wednesday evening.

Junior and Senior Boys Basketball teams bow to Weldon Wildcats

The Junior Boys basketball team gave up a 68-57 decision to the Weldon Wildcats of Lindsay. The Red Hawks lost the game down the stretch, as the Wildcats outscored them 28-10 in the fourth quarter.

Brad Mickle was the high scorer for the Red Hawks with 22 points.

The Senior game was a blow-out, with the Wildcats thumping the Red Hawks 74-37.

HHSS enjoyed a short-lived 3-0 lead in the opening two minutes of the game.

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Novice B1 Storm starts the New Year with three wins

by NORM BOTTUM

The Christmas holidays with the late nights and abundance of goodies did nothing to slow down the Pizza Den Highland Storm Novice B1 hockey team.

The first game of 2002 took the boys to Manvers. Despite being short two players, who were still on holidays, and the always dangerous Luke Watson sitting out a period due to illness, the Storm boys came out big with a 13-2 thrashing of the Mustangs.

All the Highland players, with the exception of Ian Bottum, who was left to tend the net, found the score sheet. The big guns for the Storm were Adam VanNood with four points, Tanner Cowan with five, Zane Zondervan with six and Carson Roberts with an incredible eight points.

The entire team was together in Woodville to meet the Hurricanes. The 'Canes were knocked down to a gentle breeze when J.J. Kerr took care of all the first

period scoring with a natural hat trick. VanNood found the net twice, with Zondervan and Alex Treharne scoring once each to round out a 7-1 win for the Storm. Watson found his wind and helped the cause with two assists. Bottum had two assists and Cowan notched three.

The Storm hosted Beaverton 1 Blades on January 13 for its first home game of the year. A fired up VanNood started the scoring and added three more for a four-goal performance. The Storm pressed the scrambling Blades all game. Other scoring opportunities were capitalized on by Brett Yavis, Zondervan, Greg Clements, and Watson.

What few scoring drives the Blades had were spoiled by defenseman Dylan Reynolds, who was a dominant force in the Storm end, gobbling up all loose pucks. The few shots that made it through were easily handled by Treharne, who earned the 8-0 shut out.



A team with spirit

Some of the members of the Minden Karate Club took part in an official kyu belt grading recently. The students were graded by Chief Instructor Shihan Charles Kennish (6th Dan) from Maple Leaf Karate Club in Bowmanville. Shihan Kennish was impressed to see how well the students completed their basic techniques as well as their kata. The students showed great enthusiasm and spirit. The Minden Karate Club trains Tuesday evenings at Archie Stouffer Elementary School, starting at 6 o'clock. Pictured above are, front row, left to right: Brock Brown 7th kyu, Kurran Devolin 7th kyu, Ryan Hogg 7th kyu, Creighton Griffin 7th kyu, Fred Mayo 5th kyu. Middle row (l to r): Kelly Mercer 1st kyu; Jon Pawson 7th kyu, Dylan Graham 5th kyu, Suzanne Bennett 5th kyu, Josie Belli 1st kyu. Back row (l to r): Melanie Shapiera 7th kyu, Lisa Mercer 1st kyu, Shihan Charles Kennish.

Novice A Storm finishes regular season with an impressive 24-1-1 record

by ANDREW PAUL

The Pepper Mill Restaurant Highland Storm Novice A team has had an awesome season finishing in first place in the Victoria-Durham League with a 24-1-1 record. What a fine display of talent, and a commendable job by the coaching staff. Thanks to Bruce Griffith, Tom Haley,

Brian Gallagher, and John Judge for their guidance and instruction.

The Highland Storm Novices finished the regular season in typical fashion with an 8-1 pasting of the fifth place Sunderland Wings.

Captain Scott Griffith led the way with five goals and one assist. Chipping in with helpers were Brett Hicks, with a goal and

an assist, while Keaton Gadway and Brandon Yake notched a goal apiece. Assists went to Ashton Haley, with two, Drew Paul, with three and Mike Callaghan, Matt Gallagher, and Chris Judge with one each.

Lending support, and stalwart as always, Mark Vasey anchored the defense, while goalie Zack Harrison continues to demon-

strate excellence, as his league leading 1.46 goals against average indicates.

The playoff dates have been set and the Pepper Mill Restaurant Novice A's first game is against the Millbrook Stars at 4 p.m. Saturday, January 26 in Minden. Hockey fans are encouraged to catch the action and see hometown hockey at its best. The team will appreciate the support.

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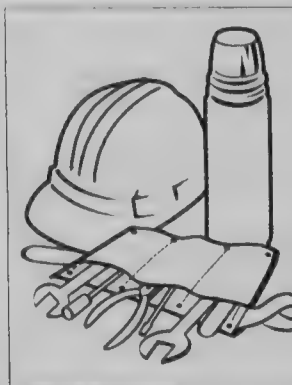
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OMHA PeeWees take Lindsay tournament by storm

by DAN MACMILLAN

The Ronald B. Sisson Builders/G.J. Burtch Construction OMHA PeeWee Highland Storm travelled to Lindsay on Friday, January 11 to play in a big A/AA tournament with teams from all over Ontario. Since the first game was at 3:15 Friday afternoon, the boys were very disappointed when they had to get out of school early.

They were the only "C" team in the tournament and wanted to see how they stacked up against the bigger centres.

In the first game, they played against the host Lindsay Muskies. The Muskies scored early in the first period but, early in the second, the Storm tied it up on a goal by Devin Hunter, set up by Ryan Bottum and Dylan Metcalfe. The game then settled into a defensive match, with Storm goalie Ian Sachs playing a stellar game. It ended in a 1-1 tie.

Early Saturday morning, they took on a very strong team from Stratford. The Warriors went up 1-0 quickly in the first period but the Storm players regained their composure and battled them head-to-head until late in the third when Stratford

scored again to take the game 2-0.

Once again, the Storm goaltending was awesome, with Mike Lennox making some key saves. The Storm played some brilliant defensive hockey.

Saturday afternoon saw them up against another powerhouse "A" team from West Hill. There was no scoring in the first period as the Storm skated right with the Golden Hawks. Late in the second, Adam Sisson roofed one from Metcalfe to give the Storm a 1-0 lead. West Hill scored 13 seconds later to end the second in a tie.

The Storm played another great defensive game with Sachs and Lennox sharing the goaltending job. As luck would have it, very late in the third, the Golden Hawks scored to take the game which eliminated the Storm from the rest of the tournament.

From a fan's point of view, these were three great games. They played three games against "A" centres and only allowed five goals. The problem was that they only scored twice in these games.

It was a great tune-up for they provincial play-offs which start this week against Millbrook. Watch The Times for the dates and times because this team will go very far in the play-offs.

Minden Curling Club scores, week one

Monday Ladies' League

Melanie Vigrass 26, Cheryl Murdoch 6
Zelda Cooper 24, Pat Campbell 3
Lynda Easton 27, Pat Woodcroft 4

Tuesday Men's League

Dwight Thomas 26, Ross Bryant 5
Dan Garbutt 20, Ted Wilkes 7
Don Ballantyne 23, Bill Roodenburg 9
Rob Eaton 28, Jim Pollard 7
Alf Trotter 21, Ross Davies 7
Ross Wray 22, Ed Cyr 13

Thursday Mixed League

Cheryl Murdoch 22, Jack Taylor 13
Jim Burrows 29, Melanie Vigrass 4
Ted Wilkes 24, Don Ballantyne 8
Sandy Cole 20, Pat Campbell 8
Dan Garbutt 25, Zelda Cooper 9
Pat Woodcroft 22, Peter McNeilage 11
Rob Eaton 13, Ross Bryant 13

Friday Mixed League

Brian Cross 24, Bill Roodenburg 8
Sandy Cole 23, Paul Prentice 5
Ryan Cole 32, Russell Warning 5

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

What's happening
in the Highlands

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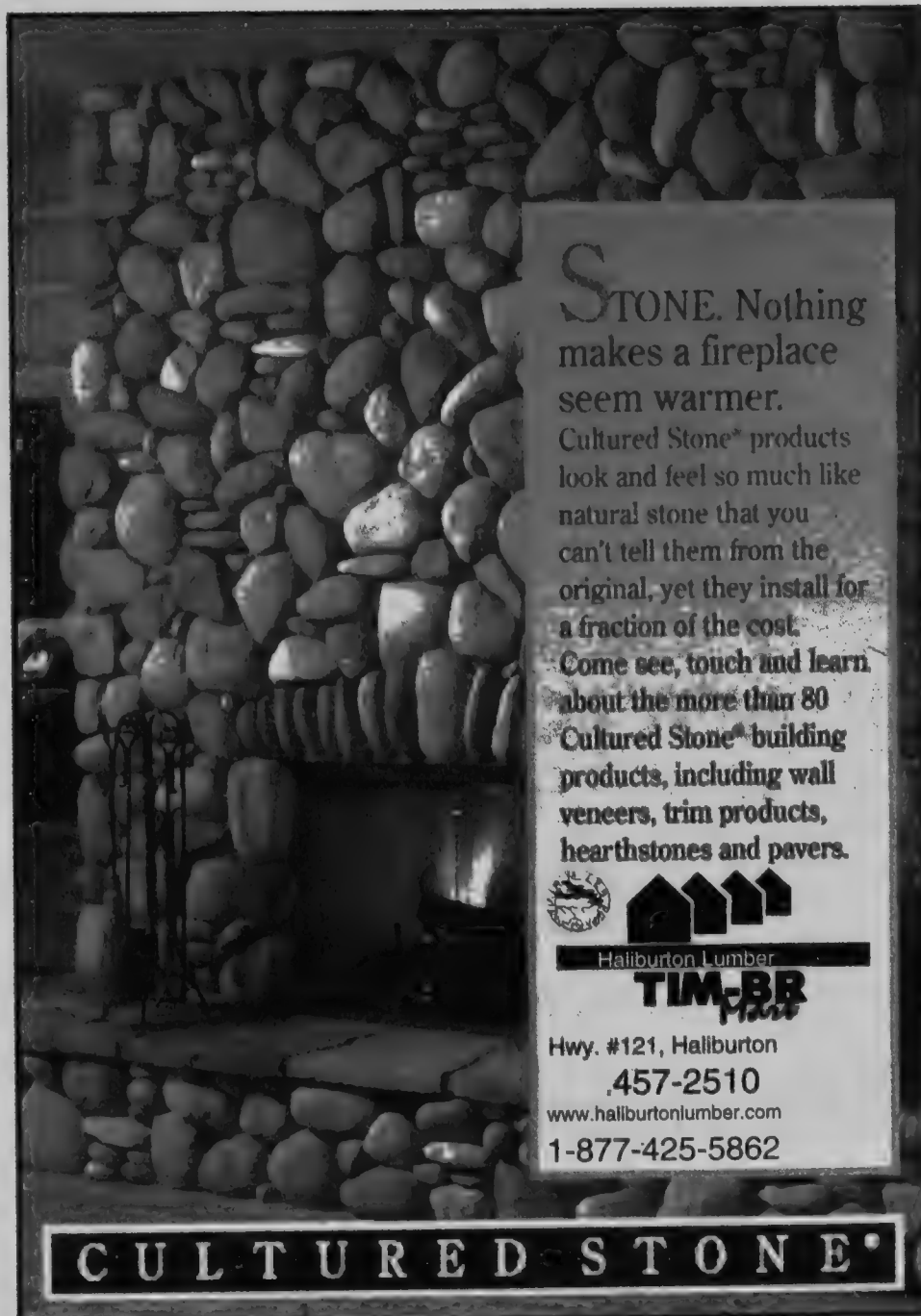
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- **Bridge:** at the Gooderham Municipal Building every Monday at 1:00 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. Everyone welcome. Contact Doreen Kendall at 447-2922. Sponsored by the Gooderham Community Action Group.
- **Haliburton County Home Support** is looking for volunteers for Meals on Wheels, friendly visiting, security checks and home maintenance. For more info please call 457-2941.
- **Scottish Country Dancers** meet Mondays at 7:30 p.m. at JDHS School. Singles and beginners are welcome. Call 286-1218 or 447-2509.
- **Join Home Support for Cribbage** in the Drop-In Centre Friday January 25th and every Friday.
- **Low cost Supper Program at C.H.A.C.E.** Haliburton Resource Centre - Halco Plaza. Every Thursday 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. \$4.00 per family. Call Abby to sign up 457-2989
- **Drop in for a game of Contract Bridge** at Home Support, Monday January 28th and every Monday.
- **Jan. 23: Tobogganing and Cook out** - Bring the family for a fun filled time - Hamburgers \$2.00 & Hot Dogs \$1.00, Hot Chocolate 11:00 a.m. C.H.A.C.E. Haliburton Resource Centre - Halco Plaza.
- **Jan. 23: Wednesday, January 23rd, 12 noon, wheels to Meals in Harcourt** - come out for a great meal! Reservations are required. Please call 457-2941.
- **Jan. 23: Wednesday, January 23rd, 12 noon, Wheels to meals at Kei's** in Haliburton. Enjoy a full meal for a guaranteed low price as well as a chance to meet new people. Reservations are required. Please call 457-2941.
- **Jan. 23: Alzheimer Society Support Groups** are holding informal support meetings. You are welcome to attend. Bring your concerns. We will bring the refreshments. You are not alone. Monday, Jan. 23 in Minden, Staunworth Terrace, 44 Parkside St., 9:30 - 11:30 a.m., 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. (Evening Group). call Janet Bottum, Alzheimer Society, Haliburton Office. 1-705-457-8335.
- **Jan. 24: 9:00 a.m., Aquasize at the Wigamog.** Open to anyone aged 55+ and/or physically challenged 18+. call Home Support to register at 457-2941.
- **Jan. 24: 7:30 p.m. at the Agnes Jamieson Gallery.** Veterinarian Dr. Laurie Brown will be speaking to the Haliburton County Horsemen's Association about the need for vaccination for a few diseases newer to our area. Non-members are welcome to attend. Call 286-2257 for more info.
- **Jan. 26: Haliburton Highlands Field Naturalists** - conditions permitting, join us for a Snowshoe and Winter Tracks Outing Saturday, January 26, 2002. Call Sheila at 754-2532 for details.
- **Jan. 31: "Daffodils" Cancer Support Group,** Haliburton United Church, 2 p.m. Cancer patients and families reaching out to help others cope with this disease. Contact please are Jean Casey, 457-1010 and Helen Cox, 286-2224.

Events listings are provided **FREE** for non-profit groups on a space-available basis. While we endeavour to accommodate requests for publication, we cannot guarantee that all requests for listings will appear. Requests should be faxed to The Echo at 457-3275, emailed to editorial@haliburtonecho.on.ca., or brought in to the office.

NOTE: This calendar is not a comprehensive listing of all events taking place in the area. Please check the classified pages, display advertising and articles appearing elsewhere in the Echo for more information on events and in the Highlands.



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Adults \$25., Students \$20.

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Please Pre-Register by February 9 by contacting: Laura at (705) 286-1760, 1-800-461-7677, info@trailsandtours.on.ca www.trailsandtours.com (Payment upon arrival)

This workshop is sponsored by the Haliburton Highlands Trails and Tours Network and the Diabetes Prevention/Heart Health Project.



Jerry Grozelle/TIMES

Lots of fun happening in Minden

by JERRY GROZELLE
Times staff

The fun night held at the Minden Fairgrounds Saturday night, January 12 enjoyed an excellent turnout. The Minden Kinsmen Club sponsored the event, which was organized by Anne Neave of Campbell's Flower Shop and Kinsmen President Tom Prentice.

No official head count was conducted, but Prentice said he heard estimates as high as 500 people attending for an evening of outdoor fun. If the amount of hot dogs and hot chocolate consumed is any indication, the estimated 500 participants can't be far off the mark. Prentice said the booth went through 400 hot dogs and he couldn't say how

many gallons of hot chocolate. "We ran out of hot chocolate and bought out Westside Jug City," he said.

Participants skated on an outdoor rink, used numerous modes of transportation to slide down the hill at the east end of the fairgrounds and spent some time gathered around a huge bonfire.

The event was scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. but Prentice said some youngsters showed up at 6 o'clock. With temperatures hovering very close to the freezing mark, Prentice said he was surprised how well the rink held up.

A brisk wind and wet flurries didn't dampen the spirits and although most of the youngsters who spent any time on the toboggan run went home soaked to the skin, the consensus was that a good time was had by all.

"I got a lot of good feedback," Prentice said.



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The Haliburton Highlands Mental Health Services invites applications for:

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- One Part-Time Counsellor/Case Manager

The successful applicant will be part of a Community based adult mental health team providing services to the serious mentally ill in the Haliburton Highlands area. Team members work both in the offices and in the community. Some after hours on call is required.

Qualifications:

1. A minimum of a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work, Psychology or related discipline, a Master's Degree would be an asset;
2. Training and experience in the provision of a full range of services to the serious mentally ill;
3. Understanding and interest in rural service delivery issues, as well as in a Community base model of practice.

Deadline for applications is **January 31, 2002**. Please direct resumes and covering letters to:

Program Director
Haliburton Highlands Mental Health Services
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The lunch bunch can really cook up a storm

Hi folks. It's a beautiful sun-shiny day and with a hot cup of coffee we have gathered together to bring you our news from the past week.

Last Thursday's Tea Party brought the Martha Group and lots of goodies. We also enjoy this time for socializing. The Martha group fulfilled both. They not only are great bakers but enjoy a little chat also. We were especially pleased when Elva Deacon played the piano for us. Thank you one and all for sharing your day with us.

Friday, a group of ladies got together and cooked up a storm. Ruth Nesbitt, Ruby Williams, Mary Goldsmith, Loretta Nesbitt, Lilian Millar, Lilian Harrison, Marg Foote, Alice Sedgewick, Marg Besse and Blanche Wright all participated in "The Lunch Bunch." They prepared a dish called poor man's casserole or seven layer casserole. They also made pioneer bread pudding and lemon sauce, along with tea biscuits - "just like mother used to make." Needless to say, it was enjoyed by all and a thank you goes out to Linda for this great idea. Sounds like being poor can taste pretty good when you had the right cook and something for them to work with.

The weekends are when we get our nails done and enjoy a treat of ice cream. Some of us even enjoyed some horse racing. We're not sure of the winners but all had a fun time.

Our Residents' Council meeting brought in a new elected executive. Gerald Coulter is now president, Roy Nicholls, vice-president, Margaret Besse, secretary and Alice Sedgewick, treasurer. We would like to thank our past executive for the time and care they put forth last year. All of Residents Council would like to thank facilitator Dorie for her dedication and hard work.

Monday brought the Gentle Hands program and Pauline Maciejok, Mary Macallum, Dorothea Lynch, Rene McGoldrick, Hazel Gregory, and Bea Britain all enjoyed a gentle massage, along with some soothing music.

Tuesday Chapel Service was held with Pastor Dan Millard, who took us through the book of Psalms. As always, we enjoyed his sermon.

Dottie and Brenda gathered our craft group together to get started on our valentine place mats. Thank you to our craft group and especially to Dottie and Brenda for their faithfulness and great ideas. Lilian Harrison says she truly looks forward to Tuesdays because of this program.

SENIOR LEAGUE

News from Hyland Crest

Blanche Wright, Elva Deacon, Mary Goldsmith and Alice Sedgewick got together that afternoon for a few games of euchre. We hear Blanche and Elva were the winners.

Wednesday the Leisure Bath lady was Vera Barnhart who reaped the benefits of soothing music along with aromatherapy, candles and of course the bubble bath.

At Pub Night, we were entertained by Gord Kidd, Jeff

Barry, Omar Wamsley, Lloyd Madill and Neil Howe. With all of these wonderful entertainers we had great music and good times. Thank you, guys.

Our official card sharks were circling the table for prey again. Mary Goldsmith and Roy Nicholls won five games to beat out Alice Sedgewick and Blanche Wright.

Sheila Burk and Marg Besse won three games against Harold Orsborne and Marj Watt.

Today we have been given a beautiful wall hanging of Christ. It was hand hooked by Jackie Mathewich. Its beauty tells of many hours of care and hard work that has gone into the creation of this work of art. We want to express our gratitude to Jackie for donating this wall hanging, which we shall treasure and enjoy for years to come. It is a kind and most appreciated gesture.

There are Happy Birthdays coming up for Iris Adamson and Rene McGoldrick. We send our best wishes and do enjoy your special day ladies.

Well we seem to have covered the news for the last week, so we hope you enjoy the snow, drive safely and remember... "The better the day... the better the deed."

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Health Unit

A message from your local health unit

Request for Proposals



The Diabetes Prevention Project Northumberland County/City of Kawartha Lakes is currently seeking submissions from firms or individuals interested in developing a tool to conduct a situational assessment of workplaces.

The Diabetes Prevention Project is a community coalition promoting workplace programs and activities aimed at reducing the risks of diabetes for residents of Northumberland County and the City of Kawartha Lakes. This is a three year project that receives its funding from Health Canada.

The successful candidate would be responsible for developing a tool that the project co-ordinator can use to measure health-related activities currently taking place in work sites employing 50 or more staff and management's current attitude toward workplace health initiatives. Once developed, the successful candidate will pilot test the tool in two focus group settings to ensure its effectiveness.

After Diabetes Prevention Project conducts the situational assessment, the successful candidate will then be responsible for summarizing the collected information into a final report.

The tool used to conduct the situational assessment must be developed and tested by March 31, 2002. Collected information will be provided to the successful candidate by August 1, 2002, with the final report to be completed by September 3, 2002.

More detailed project specifications can be obtained by calling (905) 885-9100, ext. 219.

Interested individuals/firms are asked to provide a proposal that outlines the process of developing and pilot testing the tool, timelines and costs. Proposals must include three references and be submitted by **February 11, 2002** to Hallie Atter, HKPR, District Health Unit, 200 Rose Glen Road, Port Hope, ON L1A 3V6, Fax: (905) 885-9551.

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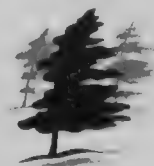
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Reading in the loo leaves much to be desired at the Fleury family farmhouse

The "bathroom reading" here at the farmhouse often leaves much to be desired. It is usually limited to a variety of computer related publications, outdated Reader's Digests and a soft-cover book "Amish Folk Medicine."

We can always tell if that book is still there when visiting son-in-law Greg can be found rooting through our kitchen pantry looking for such items as oil of rosemary or the herb feverfew. The best our pantry can offer is canned chicken soup.

Somehow the December 2001 issue of "Harrowsmith Country Life" found its way onto the library shelf with a timely article on tracing - not family origins but that of your house/land. The magazine writer had found the most reliable source of information to be the local land registry office. If you're interested, registry numbers are listed in the Ontario Government Blue Pages of your telephone book under ONT 606.

It was great to hear from Gail Leach-Wunker, the new editor of "Original Roots" published by the Haliburton Highlands Genealogy Group and to read in last week's Times that this Group's CEM-SEARCH database is now available through the U-Links Centre for Community-Based Research in Minden.

The "Kinmount Artisans Marketplace" is located on the lower level of the Kinmount Community Centre. Friday morning classes have now resumed. These classes are designed to introduce new craft materials without a large cost or time commitment for the participant, a good way to find out if you enjoy working in a particular medium. On January 25, the project will be a twig picture frame, with instructor Sandra Weyrich. To register or have your name added to the mailing list please give Sandra a call at 286-4370.

Through play, children learn and grow. Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 10 a.m. to noon upstairs in our Community Centre, the Kinmount Playschool provides

a special program of activities for little ones [babies through preschoolers] accompanied by their parents/caregivers. Twice each month the Resource Van arrives from the City of Kawartha Lakes to add to the learning experience and enjoyment. For more information, give Liz Crego a call at 488-3044.

Just a reminder with regard to the scoring news.

As this column needs to reach the editor by Thursday afternoon for the following Monday's edition any scores received later will appear in the next edition.

Scoring Report

Tuesday, January 8 mixed shuffleboard at the Stanhope Fire Hall Seniors Social Club: High scores went to Syd Lockhart/Beverley Alexander 365, Betty Lockhart/Helen Skelding 339 and Howard Smith/Marvel Eager 317. Bob Alexander and Marj Hamilton took low score with 147.

Wednesday, January 9 duplicate bridge at Park Lane: North/South - Maria and Nick Lehoczy took first place with 57%, followed by Rita and Glen Lockhart 55%. The East/West winners were Gladys Fajar and Norma Crewson 61%, with Jacqueline and Kelly Metcalf second at 55%.

Thursday, January 10 euchre at the Minden Legion Branch 636: Most lone hands for the ladies went to May Bradbury and for the men, Paul Dawson. High scoring lady was Lois Adamson, and Pat Scadden had the men's high score. Jean Scadden and Norm Lee were low lady and

man, with other prizes awarded to Elva Paisley, Jean Scadden and Kevin Maloney.

Friday, January 11 duplicate bridge at Echo Hills: North/South winners were Rita and Glen Lockhart 59% and in sec-

ond, Muriel McIntosh and Ross Fletcher 57%. In first place for East/West

were Joan Galley and Mike Collins with 67%, followed by Reet Murray and Bill Sandford 61%.

Saturday, January 12 bid euchre at Staunworth Terrace: Ruth Kellett reports another good crowd. In first was Ida Young 293, with Shirley Elcome second 286. Gayla Stamp, Esther Lee and Elli Langpohl took the hidden scores, while Marcel and Pat Roussel joined Margaret and Milton Fletcher with "moonshots."

Monday, January 14 bid euchre at Club 35: Helen Henderson took the lone hands title, with Jean and Harry Randall taking the high lady and man honours. Low lady was Kay Orr, with Wally Harpur low man. Ken Wallace adds that Helen Windsor took home the "baloney".

Monday, January 14 cribbage at the Minden Legion: Ed Hisson was first, followed by Ann Baker. Draw winners were Maxine Cross, Elva Paisley, Jean Scadden and Lois Adamson. Elva's report also brought the welcome news that Verna McDonald is home from hospital.

Monday, January 14 euchre with the Friendship Club at St. Paul's: Thanks to Katie Parker for reporting that Mary

Goldsmith took lone hands for the ladies and Don Hicks for the men. High "man" was Gladys Wruth and Joyce Ritchie was high lady. Tim Sharpe was low man with Lorna Hicks and Joyce Ritchie draw winners.

Tuesday, January 15 seniors bid euchre at the Minden Legion Branch 636: Elli Langpohl was first, followed by Bruce Kellett second, Jack Chilton third and Rob Evans fourth. The three "moon-shot" winners were Georgie Parkes, Pat Scadden and Esther Lee. Hidden scores went to Gladys Wruth, Pat Scadden and our reporter Marie Dennie.

Tuesday, January 15 contract bridge at Stanhope: Ross Fletcher reports one small slam by Gloria Moore and Frank Schlotter. High score winners were Frank Schlotter with 5410, followed by Betty Roszall 5080, Gloria Moore 4850 and Muriel McIntosh 4320. June Branning was the lucky draw winner.

In closing, I would like to send a special greeting to Bronwyn, aged seven, who lives near Coboconk.

Dear Bronwyn: what a pleasant surprise to find your letter waiting at the Kinmount "Marketplace" when the group arrived to work on its "Creative Kindness" project. We have been making the giveaway teddy bears for the Emergency Department at the new Minden Hospital since its opening one year ago. We are so glad that the little bears did their job and made your family feel comforted. Your welcome letter and the positive feedback we continue to receive from the nursing staff make us enthusiastic about continuing. Our community is most fortunate to have this excellent hospital. It is worthy of our ongoing support.



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County of Haliburton

Roads Department

Phone: 705-286-1762 Fax: 705-286-4881

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

CLASS A MECHANIC

The County of Haliburton is accepting applications for the position of Class A Mechanic to work out of the county works yard in Ingoldsby. This position is responsible for the maintenance and repair of the County's fleet, including 6 tandem gravel trucks, 4 tractor backhoes, 3 graders, 4 one ton trucks and 8 half ton pick-up trucks. The position is also responsible for purchasing parts and supplies and maintaining an inventory of stock and keeping all necessary repair records.

The successful candidate will be required to work under a Collective Agreement with CUPE Local 1960. Regular hours of work in the summer are Monday to Thursday 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., in winter Monday to Friday 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Haliburton County Roads employees are required to be energetic, co-operative, customer-service oriented individuals who take pride in their work and have a demonstrated ability to work effectively both independently and with a crew. Dependability is a MUST as is the availability to work outside of regular hours including weekends and evenings.

The County of Haliburton offers a friendly, busy work environment. Interested parties are invited to submit their resumes to:

Box 880,
3 St. Germaine Street at Newcastle
Minden, ON K0M 2K0
Attention: Doug Ray
Operations Manager

No later than 4:00 p.m. January 25, 2002.

We thank all applicants and advise that only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

This personal information is collected under the authority of the Municipal Act and will be used to determine eligibility for potential employment.

Optimistic skiers will be rewarded this season

The Haliburton Highlands Cross Country Ski Club is keeping their spirits up and getting their skis ready for action.

by Blake Paton
Special to the Times

To be a skier is an exercise in optimism. That was my answer when I was recently asked whether I was optimistic about the ski season. Skiing is faith in snow, faith cold and faith in nature. The season has started late, but perhaps it will run late, too, I replied.

Optimism is rewarded (at least it is rewarded often enough that skiers can claim to be optimistic, rather than just plain stupid). That is the case this year. A dreary early season has suddenly produced enough snow to revive the spirits of skiers. At this writing, we have good skiing on most trails, and there is joy on the faces of those who were recently despondent. Contact Pat at 754-9569 to get your membership. A warmer than usual January means that temperatures are pleasant for skiing all day and all night.

Only an idiot would deny that global warming is not playing a role in the weather this year, and in other recent years, too. The accumulated pollution of snowmobiles, cars, trucks, planes, power plants and industries are having an effect on the climate. Fortunately, the process is

slow enough that the ski community has adapted. We have built smoother trails and developed grooming techniques that take advantage of whatever snowfall there is.

Wes Lytle does an excellent job keeping the ski report updated. Bookmark the Nordic Trails web page at <http://skihaliburton.8m.com> to keep up to date on current conditions. Also note the trail talk page where you can post messages about your skiing experience.

NORDICNOTES

Blake Paton

The Jackrabbit program has experienced a setback. Some instructors could not volunteer for the program this year, meaning that the program will be scaled back. Jane Heyes, the faithful and long-term co-ordinator will be encouraging a family ski time at Glebe Park as soon as conditions permit (construction work at the Sir Sanford Fleming College site is disrupting part of our teaching area). This family ski approach may evolve into a more traditional Jackrabbit program, depending on its success.

The idea is to provide kids with the opportunity to ski with other kids, and instructors may be added later if there is a sufficient demand.

Please contact Jane Heyes at heyas@sympatico.ca if you wish to help with the program. A high priority has been set on training volunteers to teach the older kids skate technique. The club will provide free lessons to all who wish to become Jackrabbit leaders.

The new map of the Haliburton Nordic Trails system is now available. You will be able to pick them up at the trail heads and the club house. It looks great and is up to date. When you see the new map, please take a moment to review the advertising that has paid for its production. Many local businesses and professionals contributed money in the spirit of support and goodwill rather than for any expected benefit. Please support these businesses in return. In doing so we return the favour and help provide jobs for those working in the area who rely on winter tourism to feed their families and maintain their businesses.

Blake Paton is the president of the Haliburton Highlands Cross Country Ski Club.

CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIPS OF SHERBORNE, McCLINTOCK, LIVINGSTON, LAWRENCE & NIGHTINGALE

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the Year Ended December 31, 2000

AUDITORS' REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF COUNCIL, INHABITANTS
AND RATEPAYERS OF THE CORPORATION OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF SHERBORNE, McCLINTOCK,
LIVINGSTONE, LAWRENCE & NIGHTINGALE

We have examined the consolidated financial statements of the Corporation of the Township of Sherborne, McClintock, Livingstone, Lawrence & Nightingale for the year ended December 31, 2000 from which the accompanying summary financial statements have been prepared. We have reported on the consolidated financial statements without qualification on January 31, 2001.

In our opinion, the accompanying summary financial statements fairly summarize the information contained in the consolidated financial statements upon which we have reported.

Humpage Taylor LLP

Peterborough, Ontario
January 31, 2001

Chartered Accountants

	Budget 2000 \$	Actual 2000 \$	Actual 1999 \$
REVENUES			
Property taxation	645,208	682,068	803,721
Taxation from other governments	95,449	178,034	226,410
User charges	238,531	245,993	249,697
Government of Canada	-	6,330	3,532
Province of Ontario	176,040	254,648	175,306
Other municipalities	-	43,897	-
Penalties and interest on taxes	60,000	49,549	45,582
Investment income	20,000	45,944	26,550
Sale of capital assets	-	-	8,000
Capital donations	-	8,759	20,000
TOTAL REVENUES	1,235,228	1,515,222	1,558,798
EXPENDITURES			
CURRENT			
General government	301,547	481,503	246,627
Protection to persons and property	222,207	187,948	198,337
Transportation services	306,526	256,433	182,382
Environmental services	105,268	85,885	131,598
Health services	500	-	-
Recreation and cultural services	254,515	201,056	151,556
Planning and development	11,354	39,332	10,158
TOTAL CURRENT EXPENDITURES	1,201,917	1,252,157	920,658
CAPITAL			
General government	1,500	12,148	3,521
Protection to persons and property	48,400	40,169	51,941
Transportation services	189,900	280,785	104,791
Environmental services	3,000	-	1,076
Recreation and cultural services	59,582	100,637	7,656
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	302,382	433,739	168,985
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	1,504,299	1,685,896	1,089,643
NET REVENUES/(EXPENDITURES)	(269,071)	(170,674)	469,155
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN FUND BALANCES	(269,071)	(170,674)	469,155

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION At December 31, 2000

	2000 \$	1999 \$
ASSETS		
FINANCIAL ASSETS		
Cash and temporary investments	615,234	516,192
Taxes and grants in lieu receivable	376,061	390,459
Trade and other receivables	80,939	261,379
TOTAL ASSETS	1,072,234	1,168,030
LIABILITIES AND MUNICIPAL POSITION		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	175,157	197,237
Deferred revenues	153,419	56,461
	328,576	253,698
MUNICIPAL POSITION		
Fund Balances	-	89,071
Operating fund Reserves	743,658	825,261
	743,658	914,332
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND MUNICIPAL POSITION	1,072,234	1,168,030

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS For The Year Ended December 31, 2000

- The 2000 Financial Statements consolidate the operations, assets and liabilities of the Township of Sherborne, McClintock, Livingstone, Lawrence & Nightingale.
- OPERATIONS OF SCHOOL BOARDS AND THE COUNTY OF HALIBURTON**

	School Boards \$	County \$
Property taxes	986,877	423,805
Taxation from other governments	1,105	101,039
Amount requisitioned and remitted	987,982	524,844
- The above data has been extracted from the audited 2000 Financial Statements of the Township. Copies of the 2000 Financial Statements and the auditor's report thereon, are available at the Township's Offices to any resident who wishes to review or analyze the financial operations of the Township in greater detail.

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1994 FORD RANGER XLT, ext. cab., 4x4, auto., tonneau cover, air, excellent shape, \$12,300. Call (705) 488-2190.

1997 GMC SIERRA 4x4, 157,000 kms., mostly highway miles (Minden - Orillia), as is, \$14,000 or best offer. Phone 286-1748, days, or 286-4055, evenings.

2000 CARAVAN, 7-seater, air, etc. Take over lease at \$402/month or buy at \$17,900. Call Jim, 489-1949.

120 PETS

THREE YOUNG CANADIAN Eskimo dogs with all equipment to sled. People friendly. To good home. Have papers. \$2,800 or offers. Dan or Lori (w) 286-6431; or (h) 286-6917. CA

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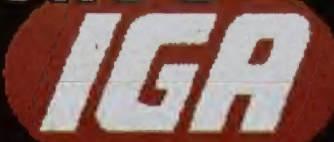
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